The National
Future Farmer
August-September, 1979
Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America

Feast your eyes on these handsome 20-gauges. And if they look a little smaller than a 12, it's because they are. Both of these 20 gauge lightweights are scaled down to the proportions of the 20 gauge shell. Smaller and lighter —the way they should be.

The gun at the top is the Model 1100 LT-20. Easier to look at than ever because of its new styling. An attractive new checkering pattern on the stock and fore-end, plus a new, richer scrollwork pattern on the receiver, complement the easy-flowing lines of this most popular lightweight autoloader.

The other is the Model 870 "Wingmaster" 20 gauge Lightweight. A 20 gauge by design. A combination of silky-smooth appearance and a silky-smooth pump action. And lightweight, in this case, is a mere 5¾ pounds with a 26" plain barrel.

Both have receivers machined from solid steel. We don't compromise the strength of steel by using a light metal alloy. Both have an American walnut stock and fore-end protected by DuPont RK-W wood finish to stand up to hard use in any kind of weather or climate.

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Look for extra reach from the 3" magnum versions of these lightweights. Extra 2¾" chambered barrels are available in a variety of lengths and chokes, including deer barrels with rifle sights.

When you're looking for a reliable 20 gauge lightweight autoloader or pump action, look no further than the Remington Model 1100 LT-20 or Model 870 "Wingmaster" Lightweight. They're the twenties that look, feel, and shoot good. And if hindsight is 20/20 vision, you'll look back years from now and see how much value your Remington 20 gauge lightweight has delivered.

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A Word With The Editor

One thing that brightens the Washington, D.C., area during the summer is the blue and gold jackets of FFA members attending the summer conferences. Many friends comment about seeing them from time to time.

This year about 1,300 FFA members made the trek to the nation's capital to attend one of nine conferences being held for chapter FFA officers and advisors during the period from June 4 until August 11. Other members would have been present except for the fact that the conferences were filled.

Start planning now and watch for the announcement of the conference schedule next spring so you can get your application in early if you want to attend next year.

One other conference, the State Presidents' Washington Conference, was held July 15-21. All who attend these conferences should return home better informed about the FFA, their government and agriculture and become better leaders in the FFA.

The Agriculture Council of America (ACA) has announced a new nationwide program to increase public understanding, appreciation and awareness of what agriculture means to America. The central message is, *"Agriculture: It's Your Heartbeat, America."* Every phase of the ag industry is invited to participate.

The ACA calls attention to such items as: If hamburger increased at the same rate as medical costs over the past 20 years, hamburger would cost $4.20 per pound. If milk prices increased at the same rate as housing costs over the past 20 years, milk would cost $2.24 per one-half gallon. If eggs increased at the same rate as transportation over the past 20 years, eggs would cost $3.41 per dozen.

The goal is to build public recognition for agriculture. The "Heartbeat" program features a grassroots survey to get common sense ideas from farmers and ranchers and people in farm-related businesses.

Results of the survey will go straight to key decision-makers in Congress, at USDA, the White House and to the news media.

For more information on how you or your chapter can participate, write: Heartbeat Campaign, P.O. Box 23421, Washington, D.C. 20024.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Delaware FFA member Ellen Bridttingham plans a career of horse training—a job that will seem more like play to her. Shown with her registered saddlebred, Black Velvet, Ellen has a headstart toward her goal of professional equestrian. Equine science at Laurel Central High School gave Ellen that boost, illustrating a true purpose of vo-ag/FFA.

Cover photo by Jeffrey Tennant

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Your plan. Our money.

Let's talk!

It takes a heap of planning . . . and a pile of money . . . to keep an operation like yours moving along smoothly.

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The PCAs are agriculture's own credit source. We're not a government agency — we're owned by the people who use our services. That helps keep us in tune with your special needs, big or small. And while we like listening to your plans, we do more than just lend an ear. The PCAs now have more than $14 billion at work, helping people just like you.

When you have plans and need money to carry them out, stop in. Let's talk.

Production Credit Association

FARM CREDIT SERVICE

The FFA

NEWS IN BRIEF

GEAR UP FOR CONVENTION! The national meeting of FFA members in Kansas City is a short three months away. Since accommodations fill quickly, chapter delegates should stand ready to help procure hotel reservations and other travel needs. Convention planners are reporting growth and improvement in this year's gathering, including expansion of FFA Alumni leadership workshops.

NEED AN FFA JACKET? Orders for the official "corduroy" should be placed this month or next if the item is needed before this year's National Convention. The new jacket price is $20.50 effective August 15, a small increase due to rising costs of production and shipping. Supply Service officials say the 1979-80 catalog will reach FFA advisors in August.

NATIONAL ADVISOR Byron Rawls grew up in FFA through the Depression years of the 30's to become only the second Future Farmer to attain FFA's top staff position. Retired Advisor H. N. Hunsicker is also an FFA alumnus. Above, Rawls speaks to his first group of FFA members since his appointment as national advisor.

THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES of Chicago, publishers' representatives, joined the advertising sales force of *The National FUTURE FARMER* in May. The firm will represent the magazine in the Midwest with major dealings in Chicago, St. Louis, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Detroit. The Robert Flahive Company of San Francisco and Robert Whaley of Sherman Oaks, Calfiornia, continue to serve the magazine as advertising representatives.

THE FFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS and Board of Trustees meetings last month marked the first participation for four new voting members. State FFA Advisors J. C. Hollis of Alabama and Sidney Koon, Jr., of Colorado worked as directors along with Les Thompson of the U.S. Office of Education. Idaho FFA Executive Secretary Marvin Stokes took his seat as a trustee. In other staff transitions, Bernie Staller has succeeded Don McDowell as executive director of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee.

FFA MEMBERSHIP figures have been finalized for 1979 at 494,394, a drop of over 12,000 from 1978. The decrease may be attributed to many factors, most prominent being the shortage of vo-ag teachers and the overall decline in student enrollment. Regardless of the drop, participation in FFA programs is greater than ever, with states such as North Dakota, Colorado and Kansas at or near 100 percent enrollment of vo-ag students in FFA. Vo-ag programs are still only training about one-fourth the needed replacement workers in agriculture.

SALUTE TO AGRICULTURE entries in the Hesston Corporation's nationwide contest for FFA members must be postmarked by September 20. Members are invited to submit a message of approximately 100 words or less on the importance of agriculture to North America's economy and standard of living. To compete for over $2,500 in prizes, mail your message to Salute to Agriculture contest, Hesston Corporation, Hesston, Kansas 67062.

NVATA, National Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association, moved into new offices near the National FFA Center last month. The organization, previously headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska, leased the FFA-owned office site on a long-term basis. Below, Sam Stenzel, NVATA executive director, signs the lease with witnesses (from left) H. N. Hunsicker, FFA Administrative Director Edward Hawkins and National Vice-President Jeff Rudd.

Over $6,500 in prizes
Awarded Monthly

Draw "Tiny"

You may win one of five $1,170.00 Art Scholarships or any one of seventy-five $10.00 cash prizes.

Draw "Tiny" any size except like a tracing. Use pencil. Every qualified entrant receives a free professional estimate of his drawing.

Scholarship winners will receive Fundamentals of Art taught by Art Instruction Schools, one of America's leading home study art schools. Our objective is to find prospective students who appear to be properly motivated and have an appreciation and liking for art.

Your entry will be judged in the month received. Prizes awarded for best drawings of various subjects received from qualified entrants age 14 and over. One $25 cash award for the best drawing from entrants age 12 and 13. No drawings can be returned. Our students and professional artists not eligible. Contest winners will be notified. Send your entry today.

MAIL THIS COUPON TO ENTER CONTEST

ART INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS
Studio 9G-3540
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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Please enter my drawing in your monthly contest. (PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____

Occupation_____ Age_____

Address_____ Apt._____

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County_____ Zip_____

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Don't be mislead by companies trying to commercialize on the name and emblem of FFA. If it is not from the National FFA Supply Service located at Alexandria, Virginia, it is not official.

Your advisor is mailed a catalog each summer. See him to order your FFA items.

Support FFA! Order from the:

National FFA Supply Service
P. O Box 15159
Alexandria, Virginia 22309

Agriculture

LOOKING AHEAD

POULTRY WASTE TO METHANE gas is an economically sound operation, say researchers at Tarleton State University in Texas. The scientists have unveiled a working model of a methane generating plant using poultry manure from 2,700 hens. The flock waste produces sufficient gas to operate the plant's equipment, including a water heater, modified engines for generating electricity and an air conditioner. Described as anaerobic digestion of manure, the process converts manure to a methane source, odorless fertilizer and a protein supplement. The processing unit could be marketed.

A FAIR SHARE for the farmer? USDA estimates the farmer's divvy of the market-basket dollar ranges from 60 cents for poultry and eggs to 13 cents on bakery and cereal products. In the case of beef at $2.15 per pound, 11 cents goes to processing, 13 cents to wholesaling and 52 cents for retailing. The farmer's cut of the consumer's buck has steadily decreased since 1967 in most food items.

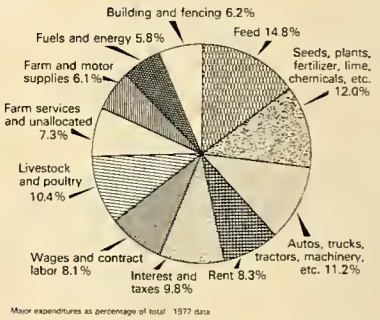
COPPER IN POULTRY FEED may cause a slower rate of gain or ultimately higher feeding costs, according to a University of Illinois research team. Copper, routinely added as an antifungal agent, increases the dietary requirement for sulfur amino acid (SAA). Levels of SAA, an essential nutrient, must be maintained for proper growth. Since sources of the acid are expensive, adding SAA boosts input costs. Researchers say copper can be replaced by substitute agents.

FOOD ROTTING IN THE FIELDS occurred in early summer because of a breakdown in a vital farm pipeline—the trucking industry. Short range effects of the recent independent truckers' strike included price hikes for certain foods and a mild panic-buying spree among consumers. With no way to move their produce, many farmers had to grin and bear it, plowing under their nurtured crops for a total loss—just an example of the farmer's dependence on agriculture's marketing sector.

THE ONGOING FUEL CRISIS not only plagues landlubbers—it's also hitting the nation's water carriers. William Creelman, chairman of American Waterways Operators, Inc., says plummeting diesel fuel supplies and skyrocketing costs are crippling commodity movements on U.S. waterways. Nearly 35 percent of all U.S. agriculture products are moved on water but the fuel situation could decrease water transport capacity. If so, expect reduced commodity exports and further cuts in gas, coal, steel and chemical supplies.

THE FARM PRICE TAG is well over $1 million in some states, once buying and operating costs are tallied. An "average" U.S. farm of 450 acres at $500 per acre pushes near the quarter million mark for land alone—not including prices of inflating farm capital items such as tractors and buildings. The average value of production assets per farm reached $220,000 in 1978.

FARM PRODUCTION EXPENDITURES


Building and fencing 6.2%
Feed 14.8%
Fuels and energy 5.8%
Seeds, plants, fertilizer, lime, chemicals, etc. 12.0%
Farm and motor supplies 6.1%
Farm services and unallocated 7.3%
Livestock and poultry 10.4%
Autos, trucks, tractors, machinery, etc. 11.2%
Wages and contract labor 8.1%
Interest and taxes 9.8%
Rent 8.3%

Major expenditures as percentage of total 1977 data

BEEF SUPPLIES should begin an upward swing into the 1980's as cattlemen begin rebuilding herds. Due to the massive herd liquidation during the 1970's, when per capita beef supplies reached a record 130 pounds, prices of meat and live animals have hit record highs. Topper Thorpe of Cattle-Fax says the expansion phase of the cattle cycle will increase beef supplies but per capita amounts will hover around 100 pounds.

A DEEPENING ECONOMIC recession looms ahead for the U.S. if leading statistical indicators are painting a true picture. An economic slowdown generally means a decrease in demand for goods and services, including some foods. Farmers, though, are affected differently than most producers when it comes to consumer purchases of goods. Demand for many farm products usually stays strong regardless of price hikes, particularly for staple foods. With worldwide grain production apparently lagging behind last year, prices for major U.S. crops should improve.

We delivered fuel for your home 'way back when.

During the early years of the century, supplying heating oil for those rambling farm homes meant providing fuel for all the stoves, lamps, and lanterns, too. The company that made farm petroleum deliveries back then is still here.

And we plan to stick with you—now more than ever. Standard and your Standard Oil Distributor will do all we can to continue providing the kind of quality products and service you've come to expect.

But please help us plan ahead. Supplies will be tight in the coming winter months, so it's important to get in touch with your Standard Oil Distributor now to help him schedule what you need, when you need it.

Meanwhile, there's a lot you can do to conserve heating oil, while you save fuel dollars. Insulating your home is an important place to start your conservation effort. Putting on storm doors and windows, caulking to stop cold air leaks, and installing an automatic thermostat to turn down heat at night will help. And in the months ahead, dial down during the day and when away from home.

We still do— but order now.

Your Standard Oil Distributor can offer you many other suggestions.

So call and order now. Supplies might be tight in the future, but we promise we'll do all we can to take care of our customers' needs.

STANDARD

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You could win $500
for telling 20 million Americans what you think about Agriculture!

Salute to Agriculture

In 1776, nearly every American was a farmer. Today, only one American in seventy, yet we are the greatest food producing nation on earth.

One-fourth of everyone who ever lived is alive today. Farmers must feed this hungry world.

Today's farmers are made of the same pride, grit and independence that helped our forefathers mold this remarkable country.

And we need to continue to develop new generations of agriculturalists prepared to lead, feed and succeed.

Like the farmer who plants in hope and cultivates in faith, we are as optimistic about America's agricultural future as we are proud of her past.

This inspirational message won first prize for FFA member, Jim Ramsbottom. It was shown during the 1978 National Finals Rodeo Telecast.

A contest exclusively for members of the FFA... sponsored by Hesston Corporation, to be presented on National Finals Rodeo Telecast in December.

Members of FFA are invited to submit in writing (in approximately 100 words or less) a message on the importance of agriculture to the economy and standard of living in North America (including Canada). The winning entry will be developed into a one-minute public service TV message and shown during the telecast of the final performance of the National Finals Rodeo.

This program is seen by an estimated 20 million viewers and is sponsored by Hesston Corporation and participating dealers. Copies of the winning entry, suitable for framing, will be available to anyone upon request.

PROFESSIONAL RODEO COWBOYS ASSOCIATION, INC.

$2500 IN PRIZES

1st Prize, $500 (One Winner) ● 2nd Prize, $250 (Four Winners) ● 3rd Prize, $100 (Ten Winners)

Winners to be announced at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City in November!

RULES

Complete rules are available from National FFA office, local Hesston dealers or by writing Hesston Corporation. Formal entry form is not required.

1. Entrants must be bonafide members of FFA.
2. Message must be approximately 100 words or less on the importance of agriculture to North America (including Canada).
3. Entries will be judged entirely upon content and originality. Quotations of others are acceptable but must be identified.
4. Entries must include the name, date of submission, address, phone number of the entrant and the name of his FFA Chapter, legibly written.
5. In case of similar or duplicate messages, the one with the earlier postmark will be declared the winner. All entries become the property of Hesston Corporation.
6. Entries will be judged by a panel of agri-industries executives selected by Hesston Corporation. Decisions of judges are final and not subject to appeal.

Entries must be postmarked no later than September 30, 1979, and mailed directly to Hesston Corporation, Hesston, Kansas 67062, Attn: Salute to Agriculture Contest.

HESSTON CORPORATION
Hesston, Kansas 67062

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Readers Report

MAILBAG

Lovington, New Mexico

I have just returned from the New Mexico State Convention feeling very proud of New Mexico and her resources and found the June-July issue in my mailbox with the great article about Hatch Valley and its chili.

If no one believed chili can be pretty spicy, just ask National President Mark Sanborn. Mark was treated to the delights of the chili during his stay in New Mexico. Once again thank you for the article on one of New Mexico's "hottest" items.

R. Kyle Hinkle
State Reporter

Noble, Louisiana

I am the Zwolle Chapter FFA reporter and I was wondering how I could possibly get information into the "Chapter Scoop."

Jeff Rivers

First, we would suggest that you look over a couple of back issues to see what kind of items are used in "Chapter Scoop." You'll note that most are unique ideas with names and concise facts. Then send us News, Notes or Nonsense for consideration in an upcoming issue.—Ed.

Manchester, Iowa

We have had a great FFA year! I hope I do not seem to be bragging, but I just feel that this is an example of the outstanding leadership and Supervisored Occupation Experience Programs our chapter possesses. I realize that numbers aren't everything but as an FFA advisor, I feel fortunate to be able to work with such an outstanding group of quality young people. It gives me a great deal of pride and pleasure to see these young individuals staying in a community such as ours.

I personally would like to thank the National FFA Foundation, Inc. for giving the incentive that these young people need. The awards play an important role in developing tomorrow's agricultural leadership—today.

Robert Wendt,
Advisor

See "FFA in Action" Item on page 61 "Record Breaking."—Ed.

Bolivar, Missouri

Just returned from the Alaska State Convention. What a time! I gave two Eskimos their first ride in a car.

What if chapters in the lower 48 were to assist in an "adopt a chapter" style cooperation activity. It would be super for excellent chapters looking for new cooperation activities and would benefit the Alaskan chapters as well.

Kelly Grant
National Secretary

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"THE ARMY DOESN'T MAKE IT EASY TO GET AN EDUCATION. JUST INEXPENSIVE"

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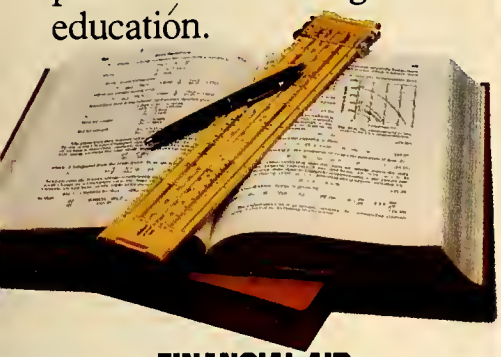

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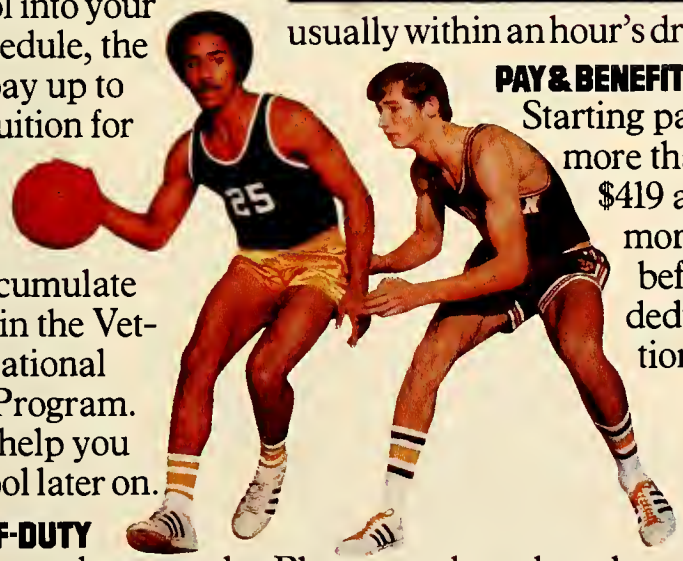

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JOHN DEERE TRACTORS
90, 110, 130, 155, 180 HP

'Dependability was a big consideration in choosing John Deere over other makes'

Robert and Greg Styan raise 1300 acres of corn and soybeans near Sadorus, Illinois. Smoothly integrated into their operation are a new 110-hp 4240, 130-hp 4440, 155-hp 4640 and 180-hp 4840. Last spring the four tractors accumulated about 600 field hours as they came on stream. Here's what the Styans have to say about them: "Dependability was a big consideration in choosing John Deere over other makes. We justify the investment in these tractors with being timely—even under the most adverse conditions. The name of the game is weather. If you have a time-consuming breakdown, especially in bad weather years, it can cost you a lot of money. The steps we take to produce a crop take time and power.

"We felt the 466-CID engines would be a big asset—if they had a big torque reserve. We're in continuous corn and need power to complete every tillage job. We were really impressed—amazed—at the way the 4840 handled a big load under rough field conditions. For example, the 4840 was putting on anhydrous with a 30-foot, pull-type bar with 1500-gallon nurse tank behind. We were running deep—at least 7 inches—and there were plenty of soft spots.

"We were glad to see the new cooling system because we plan to use the 4440 or 4640 on a grain dryer. It'll get in the neighborhood of 400 hours drying 200,000 bushels of corn. Thirty to 60 days of sitting there running that dryer has caused a problem in the past but now it's simply more justification for these tractors with their bigger cooling systems.

"There's extra comfort as well as extra heft with these tractors. The fore-and-aft movement in the HydraCushioned™ seat suspension is much better. We go over rough, plowed ground and the action of the seat moving back and forth—as well as up and down—takes out the initial shock and makes all the difference in the world."

See your dealer for more details on the New Iron Horses: 90-hp 4040, 110-hp 4240, 130-hp 4440, 155-hp 4640, or 180-hp 4840 (horsepower measured at the PTO at 2200 engine rpm in official tests).

The New Iron Horses®
More Horses, More Iron

JOHN DEERE

John Deere design, dependability and dealers make the difference

4840
4840
4440
4240
148

502 Seconds Behind the Podium

Every year, months of study and butterflies culminate in one last FFA event.

"To aspire to leadership is an honorable ambition"—1 Timothy 3:1.

"In my own case I mean not only to participate, I mean in that participation to lead."—David Alders, from his winning speech at the 1978 national FFA public speaking contest.

Those who heard David's winning speech at last year's National Convention witnessed a calm, collected young man speaking on the stage—or did they?

SOME 15,000 onlookers sat in dead silence on a cold weeknight in Kansas City's municipal auditorium. The atmosphere was reverent. One spotlight fixed its beam on an ominous podium centered in front of four anxious young people. You could hear a pin drop.

David Alders, a 17-year-old FFA member from Texas, would be the first chosen. He would open the final contest in competition that demands the best of an individual—a contest that limits the "team" to one, and you go it alone.

This was the last leg, the final presentation for four FFA members who had survived chapter, federation, district, area, sub-regional, and regional public speaking events. David had drawn the first speaker slot in 1978's national contest.

Was he nervous?

"Actually," he says, recalling each of the 502 seconds he spent behind the podium, "coming in as first speaker helped me out. I didn't have time to sit and get nervous while the other contestants spoke."

Little did he know, as he listened to the others, he'd soon be judged the finest speaker FFA could offer.

"As a freshman," says David, "I thought I'd never do anything in FFA. I never thought I'd be on the stage at the national convention as the public speaking winner. Freshmen reading this article might turn the page because they think they could never win. It's not impossible, I'm proof of that."

Perhaps he thought he'd "never do anything," but as a seventh grader David had a hunch he'd be in the public speaking contest. His father had taught vocational agriculture for years and besides, he had some shoes to fill.

"My brother, who's two years older, was in the contest," explains David. "I knew about it through him and Dad and accepted it as fact that some day I'd be in it. My sophomore year, I entered against my brother in the chapter contest. He beat me. I sort of expected it. But I got some experience."

Experience. The word popped up often as David talked of his road to the top. He's a true believer in "practice makes perfect."

"Before the state contest," he says, "I'd given the speech to every civic club in town. After state I gave the speech to my advisor two or three times a week. I gave it at home. A month before regionals, I tried to give it every day somewhere."

But experience wasn't the only key to success—confidence helped, too.

"I thought the state contest would probably be my last," says David. "I was hopeful but not counting my chickens before they hatched. After state, I had no idea what would come up in regionals. I didn't know what the other states would be like, if they'd be as tough as Texas. I really wasn't confident I'd keep winning."

But David's confidence level was at a peak before beginning his last oration as an FFA contestant. Maybe it was the result of countless hours of preparation. Or maybe he'd finally conquered the pressures of feeling every eye and ear tuned to his delivery.

"If you can't gain confidence in this contest, I feel sorry for you," the Texan asserts, with a veteran's authority.

(Continued on Page 16)

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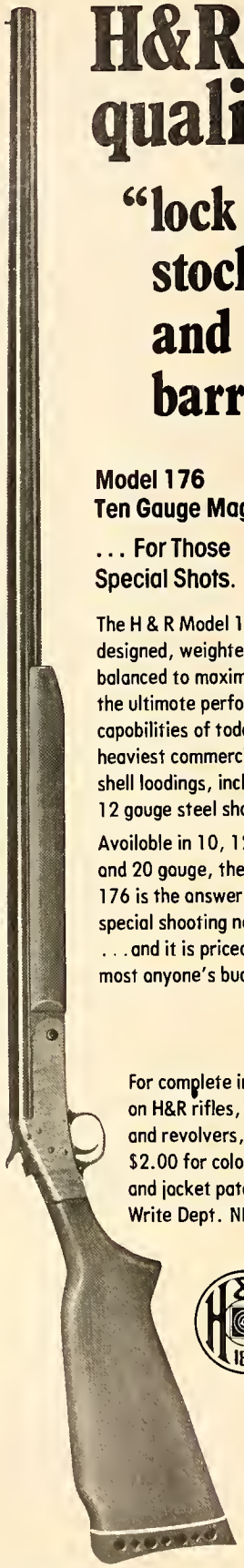

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Behind the Podium

(Continued from Page 14)

"I was a nervous kid back in my freshman year. I had no confidence and it was nerve-wracking to get up in front of an audience. I still get nervous, but if I prepare myself, I have confidence. At least now I don't have heart failure!"

Psychologists say nervousness is a perfectly normal reaction for anyone faced with a situation that calls for quick thinking. Seasoned speakers still get "butterflies," but they've learned to use their resulting sharpened senses to enchant or master an audience. Even in front of 15,000 listeners?

"I prefer a larger crowd, definitely," David avows. "I like to sense the crowd and how they feel. I like to maintain eye contact with a larger group and sell my speech to as many people as possible."

If preparedness is the key to settling nerves and building confidence, it's no wonder David feels calm talking to 15,000 at once.

"When I chose my topic," he says, "I knew I had to keep up on it. It's important, for sure, for questions. Since the speech was 'The Future Farmer and Economic Freedom,' I realized I'd have to read up constantly on national economics. I read every news magazine around and listened to broadcast reports.

"You have to select a timely topic, one with meat in it. Don't select it because it sounds good or talks only about the merits of the American farmer. Get a controversial issue, an issue that applies to farming. One that's important to all farmers. Then dig, dig, dig."

David also wrote, wrote, wrote. His national winning speech was revised many times. Each revision turned out better, a gamble that paid off.

"Luckily, I made it through my chapter and district contests before I'd reworked the speech. I actually didn't finish writing it before the area event. As you advance, update the issue. Try to sell the topic to whomever's listening. When it's written to suit you, read up on it and make sure it's memorized the way you want it."

As for perfecting delivery, David suggests observing the techniques of other FFA speakers, adopting the good and critiquing the bad. The home mirror can be a useful tool for criticizing yourself. If someone offers advice, David believes in listening to those with experience and remaining objective about those he calls "nitpickers." He says the main thing, though, is practice.

"Just give the speech as much as possible," he advises. "And enter the contest when you're a Greenhand. I remember when someone asked Bob Richards, a famous speaker, how he could speak so well. Mr. Richards said, 'Just go out and give a few thousand talks and see what you can do.' "

Presenting the speech often may be the best way to master speaking skills, but in FFA competition, a positive attitude about losing becomes essential. After all, only one in thousands can win the national contest.

"I just took it one contest at a time," says David. "Every time someone got up to speak against me I knew that person might be the one to have a better speech or do a better job. I was always happy to go one step further. I'd prepared as best I could."

That's a winner's attitude.

Chosen by Who's Who Among American High School Students and FFA, David was named one of four 1979 Teen Achievers at the Miss Teenage America finals.

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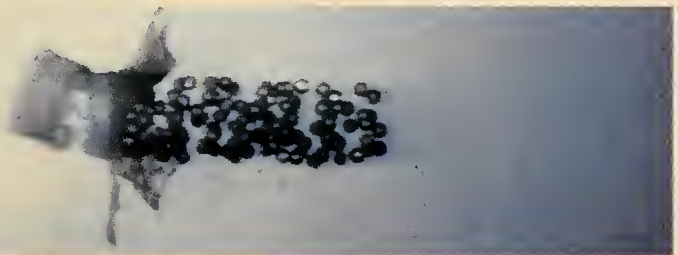

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Putting the Pieces Together

Not long ago, Doug Warrington started from step one in the farm equipment business—now, with each step, he's closer to a top management position.

Doug faces new challenges every day in the world of agribusiness.

DOUG Warrington's peers probably considered him slightly odd back in eighth grade. He didn't spend much time swimming, cruising the town or idly whiling away after-school hours. If you wanted to find him, you simply strolled to the repair garage at E.B. Warrington, Jr., Farm Equipment Sales and Service. Chances are, you'd hear Doug's greeting from the underside of a crippled machine.

Doug's dad, E.B., opened the thriving equipment and parts dealership in 1966. When Doug reached an age when hindrance became help, the Felton, Delaware, FFA member broke into the business by helping the team of Warrington mechanics. Before long, Doug was putting in the hours and assuming extra duties.

"I'd work about 20 hours a week during school," he recalls. "Summers meant more time in the business, more time to learn. Besides repair work, I assembled a lot of equipment. New implements come boxed and in a thousand pieces."

The production end of Doug's first job was no small task. A $20,000 building and three employees are still required to handle the assembly process. Since the dealership sells complete lines from three major companies, the mastering of "what goes where" is an arduous task.

But Doug avows, "It's worth it. Selling the best of three lines gives the customer the most fitting combination for his needs."

Sitting behind his paper-smeared desk, Doug talks over the chatter of patrons and the punches of adding machines. "One plow takes three men about two days to assemble. A combine takes a day and a half. Tractors are delivered in almost ready-to-sell condition, but shipping space is a factor for most implements. A truck trailer can haul two assembled plows, 20 unassembled."

As a Greenhand, Doug used his mounting agribusiness chores for a Supervised Occupational Experience Program. His ability progressing rapidly, the Delaware FFA Association awarded the busy freshman the state proficiency award in Agriculture Sales and/or Service. Reflecting sincerity to his work, his ambitions went beyond winning an award. The business demanded even more of his input.

"In 1978, my senior year, I worked here in the afternoons and went to school in the morning. It was part of a school co-op program. Three years ago I took over warranty work so the extra time helped. During the summers between school, I saw all aspects of this business. I'd come in the morning, set up the cash box and get things coordinated for the day's work. Usually from 10 o'clock on I'd work on repair business."

Laboring with warranties continues to give Doug useful insight into "big business." Equipment companies com-

Doug and a colleague listen attentively to E. B.'s analysis of over-the-counter sales income. Competitive prices and concern for quality assure pleased patrons.

pete for sales dollars with guarantees, so dealers are usually quick to accommodate a distraught customer. However, reimbursement from manufacturers is often slow. E.B. says Doug's diplomacy is an asset in such cases. Even in the best equipment lines, machinery breakdowns occur. Short-tempered farmers are often an understandable result. The Warringtons pride themselves on fairness to everyone, large or small scale operator.

Doug's father reflects favorably on his son's contributions. "Because of warranties," says E.B., "equipment companies are our biggest customers. Our mechanics spend half their time on warranty work.

"To properly oversee the operation of factory guarantees, you must be mechanically minded, able to relate to your mechanics and proficient at filing formal reports." E.B. shifts from boss to father, adding with a smile of security, "Doug's pretty good at it so far."

That's not just family vanity talking. With a state win under his belt in FFA's farm management contest, Doug has the mind for the business. As Delaware's 1978-79 state FFA president, the faculty for relating to others is ever-building. And filing reports? The 18-year-old businessman sinks his nose in business course books every chance he gets. In two years, he's hoping to hold an associate degree in agribusiness from the University of Delaware. But Doug says college is only a part of career preparation.

"FFA teaches helpful things for those of us interested in agribusiness," he offers. "Exposure to different phases of agriculture is invaluable, regardless of what branch of the industry you're preparing to enter. FFA members come in and tell me what they think of a certain line, or what they need for their farms. FFA activity stresses involvement and working with people. That's very important in business."

The integrality of FFA with vocational agriculture only served to strengthen Doug's total program of career training.

"You get a broad education in vocational agriculture. And it all helps. Even greenhouse experience helped me. Recently I sold a skid-steer loader to a greenhouse owner. He could've bought it anywhere, but I related to him and his needs.

"Vo-ag shop is good training and not just for students shooting for jobs in professional mechanics. But there's a big difference in working with 20 shop students and 20 professionals. It's good to get involved with professionals in your area of career interest."

Involvement is no foreign affair to Doug Warrington; his dedication is surely paying off.

"The business has waited a long time for Doug," confides E.B. "Dealing farm equipment is a venture that changes from hour to hour. The opportunities are there for FFA members, and it can be lucrative. We run a family business and maintain a young staff. I'm sure others do the same."

Give Doug his college years. Then find him at Warrington's under a crippled machine or behind a well-worn calculator. He'll show that vital business decisions can be made anywhere.

Doug's skills in farm machinery mechanics help him relate to customers' needs and the problems faced by the ten Warrington servicemen.

Before competing, FFA member John Hoffman of Whitewater, Wisconsin, carefully checks the engine of his micro mini tractor.

Micro Mini Tractor Pull

By Rod Vahl

THE tractor looks like a toy, but 16-year-old John Hoffman will quickly demonstrate that his miniature John Deere 4020 is anything but a toy.

Instead, it is a micro mini tractor puller that will power itself down a 16-foot wooden track, grinding its gears while pulling a sled weighing nearly 100 pounds!

John, a high school junior and FFA member, normally sleeps in his bedroom on the family farm in Whitewater, Wisconsin, but on many weekends he lives in motels throughout several midwest states, competing in mini tractor pulls sponsored by the new but rapidly growing National Micro Mini Tractor Pullers Association. In February, John rode with other mini tractor competitors to Davenport, Iowa, to compete in the Second Annual Winter Nationals.

John is always eager to explain mini tractors to the newcomer, saying, "There are four divisions—stock, super stock, hot rods, and four-wheel drive road vehicles."

Displaying his stock division entry, John explains, "A stock tractor must originate from a two-wheel drive farm tractor model at 1/16 scale. The motor can be no larger than a .051 reed valve, but you can go up to .20 for the hot rods."

The young farmer explains that the mini tractor must retain the tractor-like appearances of the original model, such as the body, seat, steering wheel, and hood.

The tractor pullers are fierce in competition such as the Winter Nationals where over 80 mini tractor enthusiasts from seven midwest states converged for a one-day meet.

John explains the procedures. "We pull down a 16-foot wooden track that's two-feet wide. You get two attempts and four feet to start the sled moving. It's an official pull when the skid plate crosses the four foot mark. The tractor pulling the sled the longest distance down the track wins."

Sitting at a portable mechanic's bench, John works on his hot rod entry as he explains costs for his stock model: $55 gearbox, $40 Cox .051 motor, $25 tires, $10 body and $7 for weights—a cost of $137.

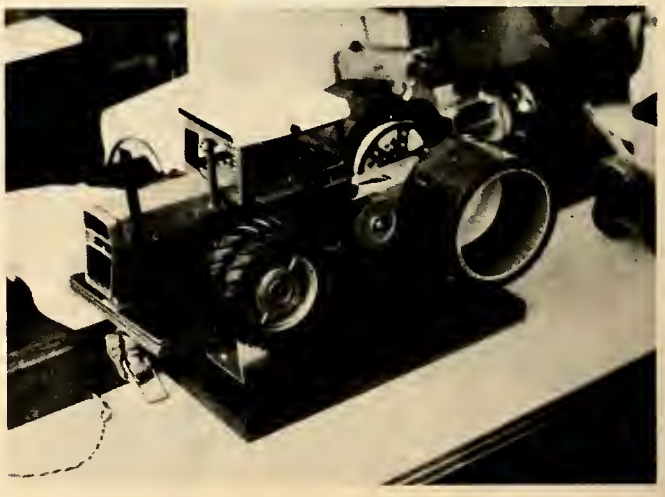
When he adds fuels, tools, and miscellaneous items, the costs reach approximately $200 for an original investment.

But John feels the costs are nominal in return for the enjoyment and challenge. In his travels to meets, he makes friends with many mini tractor fans from all walks of life—farmers, mechanical engineers, agricultural teachers, college students, and other high school youths.

Though the teenager hasn't won any big tourney trophies since he caught the mini tractor puller's bug last fall, John Hoffman, Jr., isn't about to quit—he'll be guiding that mini tractor down the track until he captures that big award.

13-year-old Wally Haste of Donovan, Illinois, steers his micro puller over the 16-foot stretch of wooden track.

Micro mini tractors such as the one below often represent a sizeable investment for the builder—from $150 to $200.



Jim McBride, Hunter

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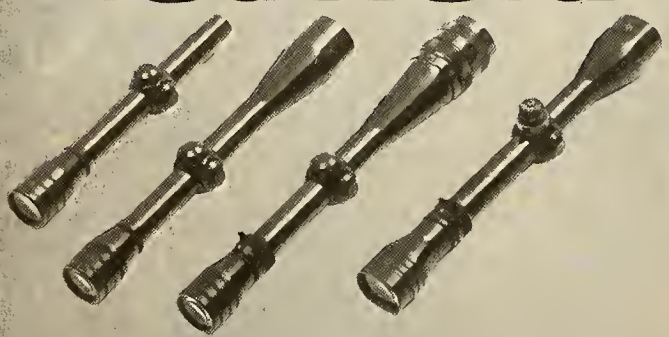

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Allison Osgood and her steed head out for the equine science lab, actually the training track at the county's fairgrounds.

An Equestrian's Tools

Horse Sense and Horse Science

STUDENTS enrolled in equine science at Ohio's Delaware City-County Joint Vocational School (JVS) don't rush down the halls to classes in geometry, art or chemistry. Instead, their day is filled with such things as cleaning stalls, raking aisles and riding horses.

The equine science program is a relatively new concept in vocational education. It's the only program of its type in the state of Ohio offering instruction in both saddle horses and standardbreds.

Originally implemented by the JVS in 1975, equine science was described as an "innovative program in agricultural education." Introduced as "horse production, care and management," the curriculum addition filled a growing need for more qualified horsemen/women to fill increasing job openings in the industry.

The two-year plan prepared students for jobs as assistant trainers, breeding assistants, veterinary assistants, tack store salesmen and farriers. Students laid the groundwork for further study at technical schools or colleges emphasizing equine studies.

The course has since evolved into "equine science," a new name striving for the same basic objectives. FFA Advisor Jerome Donovan, Jr., says many vo-ag students are benefitting from the studies.

"Our two course teachers are highly qualified," he says. "The program is taken the last two years of school, and we have a teacher for each year. Karen Griffith holds a master's degree in feeds and nutrition, and John Schultz has trained race horses for 15 years. Together they instruct students in many phases of the horse industry."

Juniors study introductory material about the industry and concentrate their laboratory time working with saddle horses. Since many students do not own horses, program rookies learn riding techniques, grooming, feeding and sta-

(Continued on Page 24)

Original teacher Margaret Owens (left) helped establish JVS equine science.

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Equestrian's Tools

(Continued from Page 22)

ble management. Seniors do in-depth studies on selected science areas and spend their lab sessions with standardbred racers. Besides classroom and lab learning, seniors work on special projects.

"At the year's end," says Donovan, "seniors conduct a horse show so they'll better understand problems involved in producing an event. A harness race is also run, using only students as drivers. Then they have a chance to work with the Delaware County Trotting Association."

The school day is composed of two segments for equine science pupils. Ninety minutes of classroom work provides an opportunity to learn about practical aspects such as lameness, ration balancing, foot care, skeletal anatomy, blemishes and horse business economics. A three-hour hands-on lab experience allows for direct application of academic principles.

A daily lab session for juniors may include breaking horses to ride, observing proper stable management and practicing the basic riding seats—western, saddle and hunt. Seniors use lab time breaking young standardbreds to harness and cart. Many phases of harness racing are studied, including techniques of training and jogging horses.

"The job outlook for equine science graduates is good," shares Donovan. "It takes a few years to break into the saddlebred industry, so the demand for graduates is more in standardbreds.

"Since we have many stables in this area, we make an effort to place students in a job during the summer between their junior and senior year. Right now, professional standardbred grooms can almost set their own pay."

Donovan says a typical day for a groom would include mucking, or stable care; feeding and raising a certain number of horses for a trainer to develop for racing and chores relevant to the race itself. In preparation and practice for an event, horses are brushed, bathed and hitched to the sulkie (cart). If a colt is in early stages of racing drills, a groom will often work the horse with the trainer.

"FFA members in the course use their work as a Supervised Occupational Experience Program," says Donovan, relating FFA's role in student development. "Because of the lab situation, the students must work extra hard to stay active in FFA. To their credit, we usually have a chapter officer from the class, and last year we won the state horse judging contest. The students enjoy their work, and expect a few frustrations and many rewards."

Many of the students are determined to land a job in the horse industry. Adequately preparing those students is a constant challenge facing the vo-ag program at the Delaware City-County JVS.

Winning Ways with Horses

TAKE one intelligent, hard-working girl who loves horses, one dedicated vo-ag teacher who races horses and one understanding employer who owns a fine stable of standardbreds. Combine them in an equine science program with a training agreement that provides opportunities to learn and participate in the horse racing business. You'll have a recipe for success.

Carol Cockrell, 17, of Galena, Ohio, has been in the money 15 times in 16 harness races. A product of the Delaware, Ohio, JVS equine science program, Carol is employed by Milo Condit Stables, an outfit that trains and races standardbreds at the Delaware Raceway.

Carol, who helps train and drive for the Condit's, won the first two races she entered. She holds a "fair" driving license and is accumulating experience and points for her pari-mutuel license. Every sulkie, or cart, driver must possess a class of ticket, or license. Tickets are not simply handed out.

To attain a fair ticket, Carol survived a nine-page test covering every imaginable phase of equine science and harness race operation. Before even qualifying to take the test, a driver must climb from a matinee license to a matinee amateur. The U.S. Trotting Association requires extensive applicant experience with horses before awarding any license.

References from six racing officials and/or drivers are required in the selection process throughout the licensing system. Before moving up to a higher step, a driver must accomplish several racing starts and meet the approval of officials.

Carol's quest for a pari-mutuel, or "A," ticket will take her through the steps of qualifier and provisional/pari-mutuel. Only holders of an "A" or provisional/pari-mutuel ticket are allowed to race for cash purses.

For Carol, as with other JVS graduates, a matinee license awaited upon completion of the equine science program. Carol's been busy ever since.

She's at the track by 6:30 a.m. to feed and water horses. She mucks out stalls, curries and prepares to hitch and jog each trotter from two to four miles. If a horse is scheduled to race, it must be worked at a fast time and readied for the scheduled event. If everything goes well, Carol can finish her daily routine by 2 p.m. in the afternoon.

Milo Condit contributes Carol's success to diligence, patience and knowledge of equestrian handling techniques. Teacher John Schultz, to whom Carol accredits her abilities, says Carol's attitude, temperament and skills will lead her to success in the industry.

Already fulfilling Schultz's expectations, Carol holds her own against some of the best drivers in the country. She records times around the two-minute mark for the mile, and her thrills are many. The rising young driver devotes many hours to preparing and training a horse for a two-minute race. But when you hit the winner's circle, as Carol often does, it's all worth it. *(By Leon W. Boucher)*

Carol in the winner's circle with sister Diane and trotter R. M.'s First Lady.

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On the Pitts horse farm in rural Delaware, the marvel of a new foal is an everyday thing.

Supplying Standardbreds for Sulkies

From a modest beginning to a flourishing herd.

By Jeffrey Tennant

DARK red horse stalls, accentuated with neat white trim, stand stately on a carpet of lush green pasture, a scene reminiscent of Britannic foxhunts and the steeplechase. Low and gentle neighs greet the visitor's ear upon nearing the outbuildings, whinnies that suggest contented boarding on the Charles Pitts farm.

The drizzly, early spring morning can't keep Charles and son Chuckie from the chores at hand. Charles worked hard to amass one of Delaware's largest horse farms; the family is working to keep it that way.

Chuckie and Charles chat in the trophy room, a place of display for the spoils of victory in racing.

Ten years ago, Charles Pitts was financially broke, but rich in ambition. With hopes of building a viable horse breeding and training operation, he moved his family from Pennsylvania to a 65-acre farm outside Felton, Delaware. Now the family handles more mares than any farm in the state, a notoriety that keeps 19-year-old Chuckie extremely busy.

Chuckie grew up around horses. He observed and helped his father transform a modest beginning of three horses to a flourishing enterprise that breeds 130 mares a year. Twenty-five stalls, twenty brood mares, three stallions and a lot full of yearlings are presently among the family ownings. Forty to 50 head of horses roam the farm each day, placed under Pitts care for breeding or harness race training.

As a Lake Forest FFA member, Chuckie asserted his growing skills in equine management, winning the state award in Horse Proficiency and first place in state horse judging.

"One horse got this going," he recalls, scanning the layout of property surrounding him. "We bought a brood mare for $200 and trained her to harness race. She wound up winning over $90,000 before retiring. She was the backbone of the farm."

Harness racing is the rage around Chuckie's hometown. Only standardbred horses are used to pull the racing sulkies, two-wheeled carts occupied by a driver who guides the horse around an oval mile course. Competition is keen. Huge tracks around the country denote the sport's popularity. Chuckie drives, and often wins, but his real interest lies elsewhere in the business.

Though Chuckie prefers the breeding side of the horse industry, racing knowledge is important since standardbreds are the sport's only breed.

"I'm partial to the breeding side of it," he confesses. "It took a while to realize I enjoyed it, though. I used racing horses and working for dad to earn money to buy my own horse, Roy Abbe. His stud fee is $300 but there's no working capital in breeding. The foal must be dropped before the fee comes in. I used horses for my FFA project so I worked in several areas of the industry."

Chuckie's racing experience helps him deal with owners of horses brought for breeding. He knows the traits of a winner, many of which are found in the family's premier stallion, Committeeman.

"Committeeman," says Chuckie, "holds the world record in a dead heat, two horses finishing the mile together, with a mark of 1 minute, 56 and 4/5 seconds."

Owners of mares bred to Committeeman are charged $1,000, provided the foal is born alive. At that rate, mare owners expect a healthy colt or filly. Chuckie expects a healthy birth, too, for obvious reasons.

"We take a big loss when a foal doesn't live," he explains. "If we're lucky, 75 percent of the mares bear a live foal.

"Some are born dead, some are kicked and fatally injured, some are born in the placenta and suffocate. Twenty percent or more of mares will abort if they conceive twins. We watch a mare before, during and after we take her in."

The Pitts's supplement their own supervisory care with the consultation of a local veterinarian. The doctor's advice is invaluable, and not confined to foaling and disease problems. The specialist also examines for reproductive tract abnormalities such as twin follicles, in which case a mare won't be bred with a Pitts stud.

Chuckie, the doctor's right-hand man, says, "He comes twice a week and

(Continued on page 30)

Committeeman, a world record holder, graces the stables on the Pitts farm. The stallion possesses champion traits, hiking his stud fee to a premium.

Yearlings sense their trainer's love.

Standardbreds

(Continued from page 29)

checks mares. He tells us when they're ovulating and when they're ready to breed. If the most fertile time is estimated, we don't use the stallion so often.

"Every day, we use Roy Abbe to 'tease' the mares, or see if they're in estrus. If one's ready, she'll lean to Roy. If she's not, she goes wild."

The breeding season stretches from December 15 to June 1. Peak months, says Charles, are "April, May and June, when nature's having its way." An average of 50 mares are boarded each day throughout the season.

"We get $6 a day for boarding," says Chuckie. "Some people bring a horse in and take it back the same day. We don't mind, but some farms disallow it because they need boarding income.

"Naturally, it costs us to keep them. We buy all our feed, grain, hay and straw, plus clean the stalls each day. Our hay, mainly alfalfa and clover, comes from out of state."

When asked if removed manure was utilized, Chuckie mused, "It raises good watermelons."

His point made, the horseman adds, "It's worth $200 for a tractor/trailer load but we put it back on our land." Hence, the lush pasture growth.

A mare is no longer boarded once confirmed as bred. But it's only a matter of time before she's back on the Pitts farm.

"If she's bred to a Pitts stallion," says Charles, "she's brought here two weeks before foaling time. We watch her from then on. When she foals, Chuckie feeds it milk two or three times daily and guards against disease or infection. Both parties, breeder and owner, want the healthiest foal possible."

Chuckie agrees. He believes the future of the business rests on quality offspring and concerned vigilance. But with stallions like Committeeman being pushed to breed 100 times a year, many management questions loom ahead. Artificial insemination? Maybe. Farm's too small now, though. More trotter training? Perhaps. Depends on demand.

A big farm means big decisions—ever-mounting decisions that will pile increasingly on the maturing shoulders of Chuckie Pitts.

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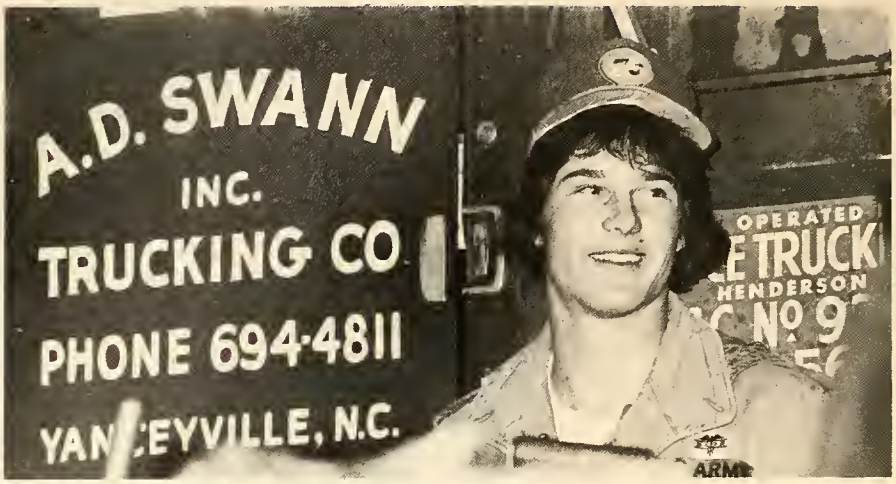

Don Swann considers his family's truck repair shop a home away from home.

Keeping the Big Rigs Rolling for Farmers

The company's founder, A. D., shares a hearty laugh with son Delbert and Don.

Power machinery is a must in the shop, needed for demanding truck repair jobs.

COUNTLESS numbers of hot, whining tires pound tread on the highways of the eastern seaboard, rolling diesel tractor-trailers to who-knows-where. It's a safe bet that some of that rubber belongs to the A. D. Swann Trucking Company, Inc., of Yanceyville, North Carolina.

The Swanns haul farm products to many southeastern states, perpetuating an enterprise that spans three generations. A. D. Swann started the present fleet of 23 GMC and White trucks back in 1930. After building a virtual transport armada of 100 rigs, A. D. says he had to reduce the number when bigger tractors were introduced. With used trucks selling for around $24,000 today, the change in size and increased cost made smaller fleets practical.

The founder of the trucking outfit has had several surprises from the business—but one sticks close to his heart.

"I never thought I'd pass the business down to my son," he says, referring to Delbert Swann. "Never dreamed of a grandson working here." The elder Swann nods in the direction of Don Swann, Delbert's son and a member of the Bartlett-Yancey FFA Chapter.

"He's a good mechanic and a good boy," A. D. indulges, his gaze fixed on Don. "With these old trucks, he's a big help to his granddaddy."

Old trucks do provide mechanical challenges for Don. His grandpa only suggests the value of Don's work, but the 18-year-old Future Farmer outlines his job.

"I do a great deal of mechanical work," he explains, "maintaining tires, braking systems and engines. With some help, I'll overhaul motors." On occasion, Don finds himself behind the wheel, hauling payloads of tobacco, lumber, steel and fertilizer.

Don and brother Bud are part owners of the company, an actuality that surprises, yet pleases, their granddad. Combined, the brothers own 25 percent of the business with 150 shares each. With that kind of investment, Don has more than just a passing interest in the trucking industry.

"Each share is worth about $100," he reveals, reflecting on the record books. "Shares are acquired through the family. I'm paid $2.50 an hour, so the stock is another kind of compensation for my work. I've been on the payroll since I was 15. I've wanted to stay in this business."

From the looks of things, he'll not only stay, but continue to take on added management duties. His recent enrollment in agribusiness courses at the Danville Community College in Virginia should enhance his ability to cope with managerial questions. Don's already prepared to handle an array of mechanical problems, thanks in part to his vo-ag background.

Cyrus Vernon, Don's FFA advisor, says the young agribusinessman is a proficiency award winner in Agricultural Mechanics and a state contest participant in farm mechanics. Next year Don will make a bid for a proficiency award in Agricultural Sales/Service and hopes to be in the running for State Star Agribusinessman.

"He's as good a student as you'll have," offers Cyrus. "His skills are outstanding, with a natural knack for working on engines. His welding is excellent, be it arc, tig, aluminum or cast iron. Don can make just about anything in shop."

Don glances sideward to the massive truck garage, his first point of interest as a young boy. "I started coming here when I was six," he remembers. "I'd work with the mechanics and soon found experience to be the best teacher." He found plenty of experience, working after school till suppertime and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. in summers. Those hours are more on a permanent basis now, plus emergency time put in due

(Continued on Page 46)

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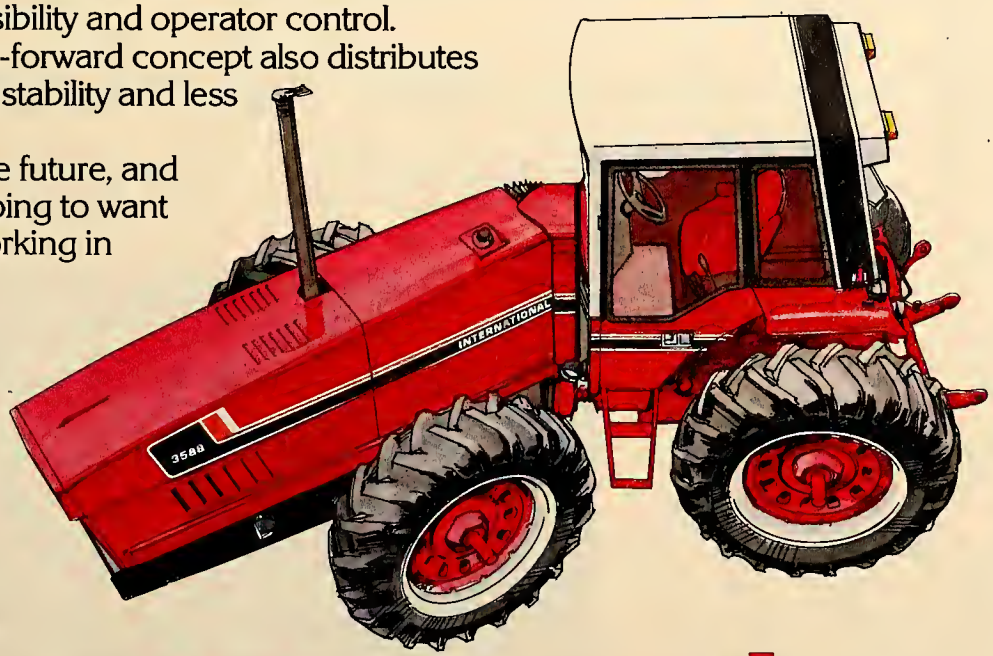

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The NFA and FFA Unite

By Wilson Carnes, Editor

THE National FFA Convention of 1965 provided the setting for one of the most significant events in the history of vocational agriculture students. At that time the Future Farmers of America and the New Farmers of America became fully united into one organization.

At the time of the merger, the NFA had over 52,000 members and existed in those states that had a separate school system for black students. The merger was mandated by the Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954, which ruled that segregation in public education was unconstitutional; and the subsequent act passed by Congress on July 2, 1964, which prohibited segregation in the public schools.

The NFA and the FFA developed in similar ways. First as a movement in the local public high schools, then as state organizations. The early state groups were known by different names during the time from 1917 to 1928. From 1928 to 1935, the state organizations became mostly known as New Farmers.

Early in 1935 arrangements were made by S. B. Simmons of North Carolina, J. R. Thomas of Virginia and Arthur Floyd of Alabama to hold the first national meeting of the New Farmers of America at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

In August of that year the New Farmers of America was formed. The 13 states represented at this first national convention were: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. The state advisors from Louisiana and Maryland were also present.

Fifteen states participated in the second national convention, including Delaware. Later Kentucky and Missouri were to join, bringing to 18 the number of states in the NFA.

Over the years the NFA developed several establishments in farming awards. These included the H. O. Sargent award (for young farmers), Star Superior Farmer, Star Modern Farmer, Dairy Farming, Farm Mechanics, Farm Electrification, Farm and Home Improvement, and Soil and Water Management. Contests included public speaking, quartet and quiz. After the FFA Foundation was organized in 1944, funds to help finance these activities were distributed to both the NFA and the FFA based upon membership.

Adolphus Pinson, national NFA president, exchanges his NFF jacket for an FFA jacket. FFA President Kenneth Kennedy accepts for the FFA archives.

The NFA was a highly successful organization but destiny must have its way. Dr. E. M. Norris, executive secretary of NFA and W. T. Johnson, executive treasurer of NFA were authorized to work with Dr. A. W. Tenney, national FFA advisor, in completing plans for the merger. On July 29-30, 1965, the national officers and Boards of the NFA and FFA met in a joint session to complete the arrangements.

The 31st and last National NFA Convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia, October 6-8, 1965. It was a great convention but the enthusiasm of NFA members was dampened by the fact that when the gavel sounded on their final session, their organization would be no more.

Then it was on to Kansas City the following week for the National FFA Convention. A delegation of NFA members and officials made the trip, including the famous NFA Chorus, which was to make its final appearance. The reception they received—a long, standing ovation after singing, "NFA Boys Are We"—served as a warm welcome for NFA into the ranks of the FFA. Later during an impressive ceremony on stage, each national officer of the NFA exchanged his NFA jacket for the blue and gold jacket of FFA. As a part of the ceremony, the FFA officers accepted the NFA jackets for the archives at the National FFA Center.

Today, a former national president of the NFA from North Carolina, Mr. James W. Warren, sits on the FFA Board of Directors. Students who would have been members of NFA have served as a national FFA officer, state FFA presidents, winner of state public speaking contests and participated in other activities. They are carrying on a tradition of achievement that NFA brought to FFA.

The last NFA chorus made their final appearance at the 1965 FFA Convention. Director I.S. Glover of Sylvester, Georgia, became director of the FFA chorus.

For more about the NFA, see the chapter "The New Farmers of America" in the book, The FFA at 50 *on sale by the National FFA Supply Service.*

FFA member Dave River and father, Ross, Maquoketa, Iowa.

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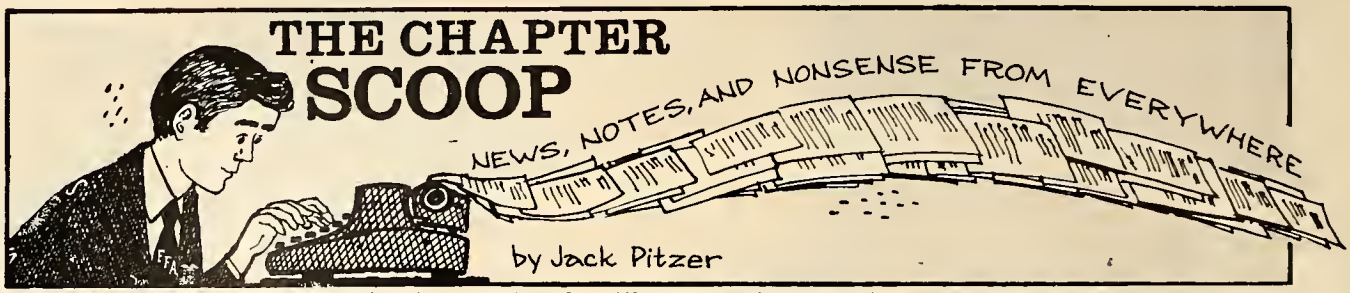


FFA in *Zillah,* WA, and the National Guard cooperated in conducting a diesel mechanics seminar. Students took the diesel out of a tank.

N-N-N

The annual farm animal display of *Waverly* FFA at a big shopping center in nearby Lincoln, NE, attracted 10,000 according to Reporter **Dan Tvrdy.**

N-N-N

The FFA borrowed a cotton trailer from a local gin, loaded it with a variety of farm animals and exhibited it at elementary schools in *Spartanburg,* SC.

N-N-N

Four hundred chickens fed over 900 people at *Santa Paula,* CA, annual chicken barbeque.

N-N-N

Cascade, MT, FFA won its 11th first place district sweepstakes in 16 years.

N-N-N

Advisor **Horton** played quarterback on both teams in a *Norman,* OK, game.

N-N-N

An exchange between *Chokio-Alberta,* MN, FFA and *Hobson,* MT, Chapters took place during June.

N-N-N

Rodeo came to Indiana when *Waldron,* FFA sponsored a high school meet.

N-N-N

Citrus FFA in FL beat Air Force ROTC 30-0 in challenge football.

N-N-N

Lonnie Anderson, John Condit, Michele Cunningham and **Shelly Drennen** are the successful land judging team for the *Hundred,* WV, Chapter.

N-N-N

A faculty appreciation tea for *Powhattan,* KS, Chapter was their way of thanking other teachers for support.

N-N-N

Sign on *Sequim,* WA, FFA trailer in parade was "Preserve Farm Land; Houses Don't Photosynthesize."

N-N-N

Chris Tragesser, *Tipton Junior,* IN, FFA sold three times more garden seeds than last year's top salesman.

N-N-N

In *Ada,* OH, area farmers donate old farm machinery to the chapter. Then members salvage usable parts and cut the rest up to sell for scrap.

Judges for *Albin,* WY, Chapter project show arrived early and gave tips on the proper way to show.

N-N-N

FFA banquet ideas are always useful. Of course, hiring past national officers as speakers is popular like *Alpena,* MI, who had **Mike Jackson,** past secretary from IN.

N-N-N

Some chapters install new officers as did *Viborg,* SD, and *Cottage Grove,* OR. (It's two years in a row all Cottage Grove officers were girls.)

N-N-N

A cake auction at *Righetti,* Santa Maria, CA, FFA banquet brought in $1,000 to send their state winning hort team to the national contest.

N-N-N

Southeast FFA in Ravenna, OH, honored Principal Terry Byers with a Chapter Farmer degree.

N-N-N

Gag gifts to various members "livened up" the *Scappoose,* OR, banquet.

N-N-N

Large crowds are typical at banquets. *Capac,* MI, had 250 guests. *Caledonia,* MI, served over 700 at their barbeque.

N-N-N

After the *Bertha-Hewitt,* MN, banquet, a mass parent-member volleyball game got everyone involved.

N-N-N

A newsy banquet edition, one-page, FFA newsletter edited by a staff of members in *El Dorado Springs,* MO.

N-N-N

Landscaping projects are popular. *Sutherlin,* OR, fixed up the new city library. And *Fairbanks* Chapter, Milford Center, OH, did their school.

N-N-N

A gospel concert, bake sales, an aluminum drive and solicitation from area businesses helped *Stafford,* VA, FFA raise $1,200 for a local hospital.

N-N-N

Greenhands at *Deming,* NM, had to carry a "Creed Board" with them. Whenever an officer went by, Greeny had to sit on his board and recite the FFA Creed loud and clear.

A local sale barn agreed to auction *Kirksville,* MO, FFA members off after the main livestock sale.

N-N-N

Jim Panky, Bobby Patterson, Kelvin Davenport and **Mark Tatum** make up the *Murray County,* GA, string band.

N-N-N

Here in the 48, *Warroad,* MN, Chapter members claim to have members living the farthest north. In Northwest Angle, MN.

N-N-N

They got three days of swimming, skiing and sunburning during the annual *Alex,* OK, FFA trip.

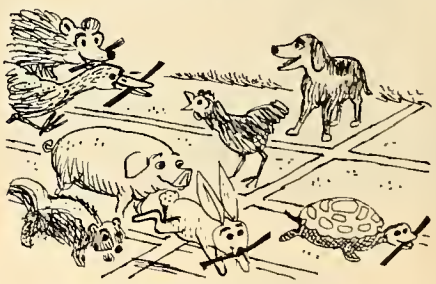
N-N-N

Joe Bowan, reporter for *Central* FFA in Woodstock, VA. Chapter picked up 33 bags of trash on a three-mile stretch in a county campaign.

N-N-N

Mowers, paint brushes, hammers and hard-working *Thomas,* OK, FFA'ers brought a smile back to Sewell Park.

N-N-N



An animal relay race is part of the *Ridgedale,* OH, FFA Olympics along with tug-o-war and wheelbarrow obstacle course.

N-N-N

A planter adjustment seminar held in *Wyoming,* IL, FFA shop was organized by the local Alumni affiliate. Dealers also demonstrated latest equipment.

N-N-N

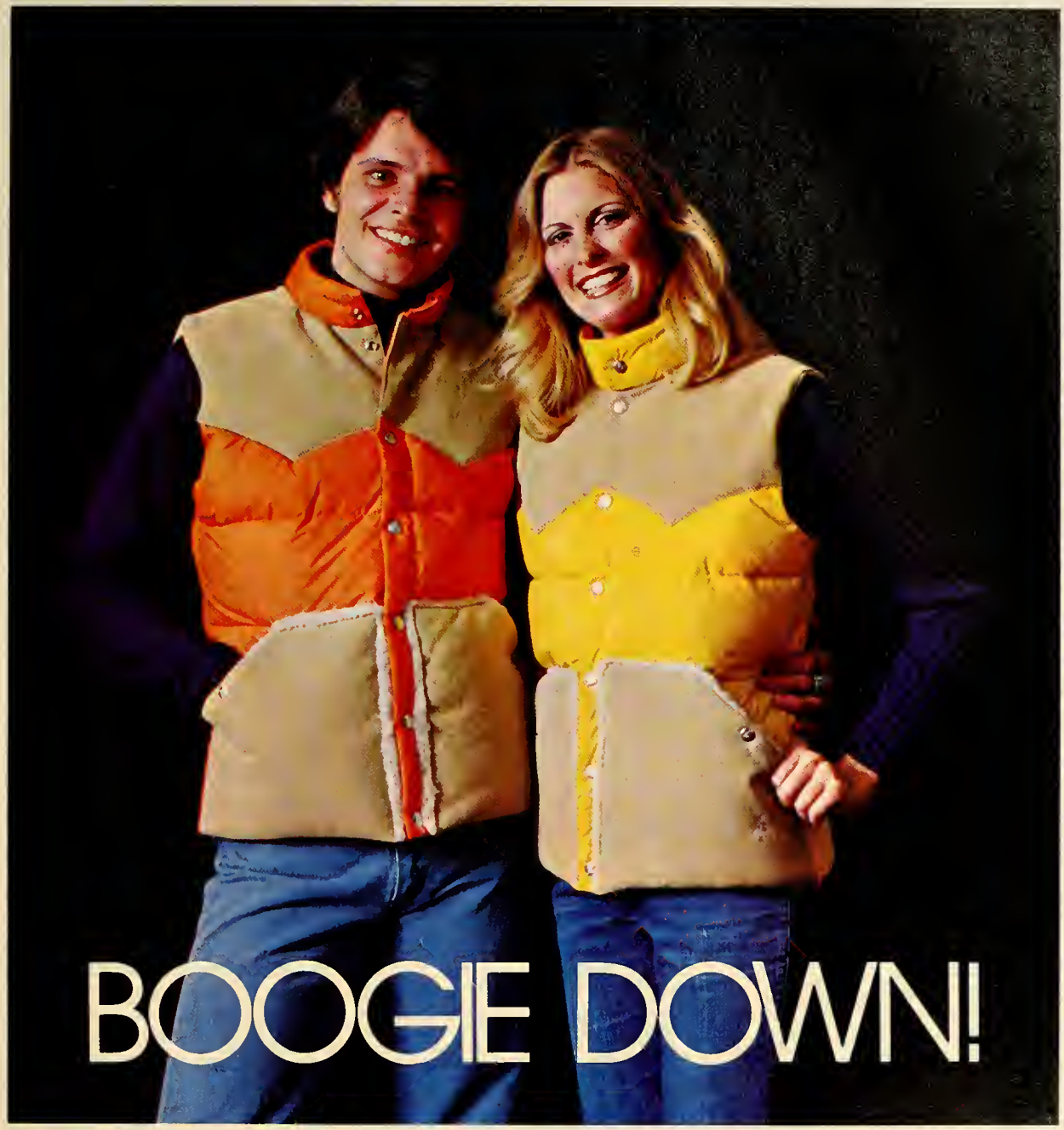
The *Devils Tower* FFA organized a blood donor drive for the 318 people in Hulett, WY. There were 61 donors including 15 FFA'ers and advisor.

N-N-N

And when *Marysville,* OH, helped the county Red Cross with a bloodmobile, FFA'ers provided baby sitters for donors.

N-N-N

Cards and letters are the way to send in newsy items about your chapter. Note to reporters: try to avoid long lists of activities for the last six months. Write down the who, what, when, where and why of two or three important and newsworthy activities. Share your nifty new ideas with other members.



It's Gerry's Boogie Vest headin' west and goin' there with style to spare. You'll dig this down-filled vest's large fleece-lined pockets, when the cold weather comes blowing your way. You'll also appreciate the snap front and down-filled collar. Catch that suede cloth yoke for extra warmth and great looks all around.

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Debbie the rodeo president.

Stealin' the Show in Rodeo

THE pulsating sounds of beating hooves, bellowing cattle and an arena crowd's roar are old hat for Debbie Powell of Maitland, Missouri—hat, as in cowgirl; hooves as in horses.

Rodeo competition and the many-faceted horse industry continue their appeal to the 17-year-old Nodaway-Holt FFA member. With an already filled slate of honors resultant from rodeo triumphs, Debbie continues to heighten her ambition and nurture her riding skills.

"I'll just keep trying to get better," she replies when asked about her future plans in rodeo. "I hope to compete during college." Debbie confesses to a love of horses, indicative of her career intention to work in "anything that involves animals."

The Missouri cowgirl is proof that a commitment to lead can open many doors. Deb's doors have led to roomfuls of rewards, including election to the presidency of the 13,000 member National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA).

The first female to hold the top office, Deb says, "Serving as president, I've been able to travel to many other states. I've found lasting friends at rodeos I've entered or visited. If it weren't for rodeo, I couldn't have done either."

Debbie's official duties as president ended in July of 1979 at the NHSRA rodeo finals in Denver, Colorado.

Debbie began her rodeo career at the ripe old age of 11, entering junior events sanctioned by the National Little Britches Rodeo Association (NLBRA). Reflective of natural ability and a desire to succeed, the NLBRA newcomer set out to amass points given for high placings in events. Eventually the cowgirl qualified, in her first year of membership, for the association's national finals in Littleton, Colorado.

"I learned to ride and enjoy it on a Shetland pony," she recollects, thinking back on her early childhood. "Our family has always lived on a farm or ranch so horses were always around.

"When I first got into competition, I won a few and lost a lot. It's like any other sport—to do well you have to keep at it, stay dedicated. I enjoy practice as much as the rodeo."

The entire Powell family takes to competitive horsemanship. Sister Cindy, 19, served for years as a partner with Debbie in training for team events. Not only were they partners in rodeo, the two sisters worked together with a 60-head herd of feeder cattle as a business enterprise and FFA project. Cindy still works with the cattle but Deb has a new partner in competition.

"When Cindy graduated from high school," says Deb, "my friend Lisa Kneale started training with me." Lisa, 16, travels extensively with Debbie to contests, a practical arrangement that works well during the demanding rodeo season. The pair perform expertly together, but each takes a special liking to certain rodeo segments.

"Calf roping and team roping are my favorite events," offers Debbie, her affection for the two obvious from her winnings roster. A closer look at the victory list reveals an all-around champ.

After nabbing the title of NLBRA world champion junior all-around cowgirl in 1975, Debbie joined the NHSRA. In her rookie year, she stormed the Missouri state high school rodeo finals, garnering first place in goat tying (an event she's won three years straight), team roping and breakaway calf roping. A crown as all-around cowgirl topped off the honor.

As a three-time contender at NHSRA's national finals in Sulfur, Louisiana, the Missourian has racked up high placings in calf roping and the election to national president.

"FFA helped prepare me for the national office," she relates, looking back on her terms as secretary on chapter and area levels. "I'm still benefiting from presiding on our parliamentary procedure team—that knowledge can be used in any meeting."

Under Deb's leadership, the Nodaway-Holt "parly pro" team became an area contest winner.

A skilled public speaker, Deb claims to have gained personally from other FFA areas besides leadership activities. "The FFA livestock contest, horse judging and farm business management contest have all pressured me to learn more about my agricultural interests."

Bob Hughes, Nodaway-Holt FFA advisor, says, "Deb is one member who puts it all together. She's an excellent student, an inspiring leader and an outstanding athlete."

Already credited with a string of honors and awards from each scene of action, it's safe to say Debbie Powell has the gumption to succeed.

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Photos by Author

The Lime-Drivin' Kid

By Jeffrey Tennant

SHE'LL say she doesn't have a CB handle, but Carroll County truckers will tell you otherwise. Anytime a break for "The Lime-Drivin' Kid" fills a truck cab, Jan Roop of New Windsor, Maryland, comes back to the caller.

Jan hauls and spreads soil-additive lime and, according to dad Rauland, "does a good job with the trucks." Not only does she load, drive and dump the contents of the liming rigs, the 18-year-old Francis Scott Key FFA member handles equally important business matters. To name a couple, she types the family bills and "makes sure Dad gets them mailed." She takes charge of washing the truck fleet because "If I don't do it, it won't get done."

Jan is also engaged in the building of a new mechanics shop. Always concocting a good-natured jab at her dad and brother Sam, Jan muses, "I try to keep them organized in our old shop, but it just doesn't work."

The youngest Roop readily admits to special problems as a lady truck driver. "I'd recommend this business to anyone," she says. "But if you're a girl, you have to put up with being looked at all the time. Even when I took my

Jan spends hours in the cab of a hauling rig, heading through the Carroll County countryside to fill growing orders for Roop lime.

truck license tests, another applicant asked 'Can that little girl pass?' I went ahead with the required maneuvers and repairs and showed him."

Though her petite 5 feet 3 inch stature may have prompted the curious applicant's question, it didn't keep her from obtaining a trucker's license at age 16. Now, Rauland says, "Customers call up and say they want the little girl to deliver their lime."

"I've been asked if I'm a women's libber," Jan confesses, "but I've just told them I'm hauling to help Dad. Ever since I started riding along with him, I've always wanted to drive myself."

In her retiring address last year as Maryland FFA's outgoing state secretary, Jan's final words proclaimed, "If it's to be, it's up to me." The past state officer considers self-motivation necessary to learn the ropes of the liming business. She started her practice early.

"When I was nine, I'd go with Dad on a liming run. If he had to shovel from the truck bed, I'd sit on the edge of the seat and drive through the field." She demonstrates, miming a stretching ordeal of arms and legs. "I couldn't fully control a truck until I was 13."

At 13, Jan didn't drive the highways but still played a major role in her father's business. Her summers and Saturdays were often spent unloading truckloads of lime on customers' land while Rauland carried out other necessary chores, such as soil-testing adjacent acreage.

When Jan finally took over the full duties of a lime truck operator, her day began at the break of dawn. An early start is necessary when you average eight to ten finished jobs in one day.

"We get to the quarry as soon as possible," she says, referring to the mining operation seven miles away. "We haul and refill all day until the quarry closes at 4:30 in the afternoon. Our long hauls come last, so I'm usually home by 6:30 or 7, depending on delays or mechanical problems."

Home doesn't signal the day's end. Each night, trucks necessitate servicing. Oil, lights, gas, brakes, belts—all must be checked and maintained. Jan says vo-ag courses helped her in the area of mechanics, a facet of the trucking business that keeps her swamped with work.

"I already knew how to weld when I entered FFA," she confirms, "but in ag I received more in-depth training. Now I'm able to work with Dad on major repairs to gear boxes and other parts.

"FFA helps in other ways. The emphasis on record-keeping shows the importance of well-kept books. We work with all types of customers so the opportunities I had in FFA to work with people have helped me relate to others."

One of the limer's duties is testing the soil to determine the ground's quantitative need for the additive. Since lime neutralizes acid in soil, plant growth is most positively affected by liming if the dose is measured accurately. Jan's participation as a judge on the chapter soil judging team "really helped, because I learned how to test and formulate recommendations from the results." Her vo-ag courses brought to light many technical aspects of soil, beneficial knowledge for a liming operator.

Jan's brothers, Scott, 29, and Steve, 28, inspired her to join FFA because "both were getting a lot out of it." Brother Sam, 20, a Maryland Association vice president, had followed suit and joined, erasing any doubts in his sister's mind about signing up.

"She was always active, so she profited from it," says Rauland. That's an understatement—Jan's accomplishments in FFA began from the word go.

Following her first year in FFA, she won the chapter Star Greenhand award for her work with dairy cattle. Besides the liming venture, the Roops farm 450 acres of corn, alfalfa and barley, used in nourishing a 150-head herd of Holsteins. As a freshman, Jan could be found working in the fields and barns. To this day, she's still teased about her preference of a tractor without a cab, a nicety that allows one to soak up some sun.

Eventually, the liming business became the basis of her Supervised Occupational Experience Program. Just as her trucking experience grew, so too did her leadership abilities. In addition to three years of duties as class secretary, Jan starred in an aggressive contact sport.

Maintenance and repair of trucks are essential duties in the limer's day.

The business starts with farmers' orders taken at the homeplace desk.

"Hockey," she replies, when asked about her favorite athletic event. "I started playing in junior high. We won the state championship my senior year, and I was named Most Valuable Player." Rauland grins and barely shakes his head, recalling, perhaps, a stirring injury or two. "I'm glad I got it to prove to Dad that the running was all worth it."

Jan's running wasn't all on the hockey field. Her myriad of school and FFA activities, combined with her trucking and dairy interests, have always kept her at a quick pace. Her "life in the fast lane" has only caused one problem, as she puts it.

"I just can't say no! That's my biggest problem—but I guess that's why I've always been busy."

Regardless of a crowded slate of personal pursuits, Jan has managed overtime for FFA. Even as Carroll County Farm Queen she represented and promoted agriculture. As FFA Chapter Sweetheart, cheerleader and school newspaper editor, she strengthened her stable of abilities, whether they be ag-related skills or the often complex craft of communicating to people.

If you're ever passing through New Windsor, keep your eye out for a rumbling lime truck. Turn on your radio and listen for The Lime-Drivin' Kid; she'll always take a short break for a friendly chat. But stay out of her way—she keeps a tight schedule.

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Cancer-Can it be Prevented?

By Dorothy J. Buchanan-Davidson, Ph.D.

A hat, shirt, sun lotion containing para-aminobenzoic acid and careful attention to the time spent in the sun will help protect sensitive skin. People with fair or light complexions are more vulnerable to harmful rays.

PEOPLE have known about cancer for many years. Dinosaurs suffered from similar tumors. Egyptian and Incan mummies also had cancer. Hippocrates, the founder of Modern Medicine who lived from 460-370 B.C., described cancer as a crab, since it too seemed to reach out in all directions. He thought that bile from the spleen and stomach, not the liver, caused cancer. For almost 2,000 years doctors believed this to be true.

Most early doctors practiced a mixture of medicine and astrology, using herbs, crab powder, purgation and blood-letting to treat the disease. Sometimes caustic pastes containing arsenic were used to ease the pain. About the time of Galen who lived from 138-201 A.D., one medical text said that the remedy for cancer of the womb was to "burn either three or five river crabs, an uneven number, over live coals, powder in Cyprian oil and apply to the ulcerated part with a feather."

Gradually our knowledge of medicine increased. Doctors learned about body structure and realized that cancer was not due to black bile. In the 18th century people became aware that the environment influences the development of certain types of cancer. For example, the use of snuff caused cancer of the nose and pipe smoking caused lip cancer.

The ground work was being laid for the practice of medicine as we know it today. In 1846 anesthesia was developed, making it possible to perform surgery without excruciating pain. This was followed by the work of men like Lister and Pasteur who gave us our understanding of infection and the use of antiseptics to prevent its development. Together these two developments enabled the practice of surgery to develop very rapidly. Surgeons were now able to explore and often remove cancers with comparative ease, comfort and safety. During World War II better methods of treating shock, replacing blood and the use of antibiotics enhanced the success of surgery even further. Today, surgery is the primary type of treatment for over 60 percent of cancer patients.

Near the end of the 19th century, x-rays were discovered. Their potential for detection of internal cancers and cure of many kinds of cancer was quickly realized. Sophisticated equipment and different types of radiation have now been developed, but some early attempts with x-rays and the uncontrolled exposure to radiation from atomic bombs caused disastrous results due to over-exposure. But carefully controlled use by highly trained radiologists, improvement in shielding of healthy tissue, different types of radiation and increased awareness of possible dangers have greatly increased its usefulness.

Radiotherapy is now the second most important type of cancer treatment and the primary treatment for almost 20 percent of all cancer patients. It is also used with another 25 percent of patients in conjunction with surgery and chemotherapy. Irradiation is one of the major methods of diagnosing cancer.

(Continued on Page 47)

Dr. Buchanan-Davidson is a science writer for the Wisconsin Clinical Cancer Center in Madison. An accomplished scientist and writer, she has been involved in research and writing for over 30 years.

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Big Rigs

(Continued from Page 32)

to late-night distress calls from drivers of crippled trucks.

Breakdowns don't follow a schedule, but during normal hours the Swanns run a regimented operation. The business relies on each man doing his job, and Don's mechanical know-how fits right in place.

"Grandpa gets loads for the trucks, works in the shop and runs the retail parts store," explains Don. "Dad is the shop foreman. Twenty-five people work for us, but most of them drive. Our family handles the bulk of the mechanical demands. Bud's a mechanic, too."

Don's favorite shop areas include welding and lathe work. As in any large business, economics often dictate whether equipment is purchased or built on the premises. Don often engages himself in money-saving projects such as adding trailer axles or making gears. Repair work is seemingly never-ending. On the road with long hauls, things don't always run smoothly. Engine repairs and flat tires aren't the only hassles.

"Sometimes trailers turn over," Don admits, his tone indicating the approach of a disastrous, but eventually laughable, trucker's story. "Once we dumped 46,000 pounds of tobacco in somebody's field—had to pick it up by hand. That was a mess." He eyes his dad. "Luckily," he concludes, "I wasn't driving."

Don devotes much of his time to making tractor and trailer parts for later use.

Surrounded by the power-hinting smells of oil, welding smoke and diesel fuel, Don feels right at home in the expansive Swann shop. Mammoth wrenches, hydraulic lifts and harbored 18-wheelers cast dark shadows on the smooth concrete floor. Every machine seems to yell for attention. Walking briskly to his next task, Don probably can't imagine a grandson of his working in this business, either.

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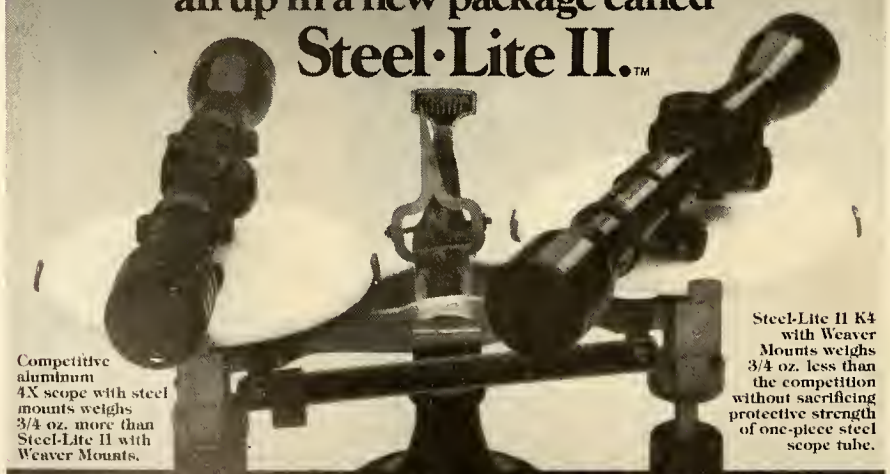

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Cancer

(Continued from Page 45)

World War II also brought unexpected improvements in cancer treatment, for it was discovered that nitrogen mustard gas beneficially affected patients with leukemia and lymphoma. The first temporary remissions of acute leukemia in children were achieved with folic acid antagonists in 1947.

A national program has tested hundreds of chemicals for anti-cancer activities. Between 30 and 50 different substances have been shown to effectively treat some types of cancer. Often, several drugs used together are more effective than a single drug. Occasionally these drugs can be used with surgery and radiotherapy to achieve even better results.

In the past 125 years we have learned a great deal about cancer. We know there are several hundred different kinds of cancer. We are able to effectively treat many types of cancer and sometimes even cure, but many things are still unknown. Now that we do know more about the disease and how to treat it, we are beginning to search for ways to prevent its development. We do know some things each of us can do to help prevent cancer.

"We are able to effectively treat many types of cancer—and sometimes even cure . . ."

Vital statistics, which began in 1836, show us that some cancers are caused by environmental exposure to a carcinogen, a substance which causes the formation of a cancer. For example, it had been known that many men who mined silver, cobalt and uranium ores became ill, but it was not until 1879 that doctors realized the miners' deaths were due to lung cancer caused by exposure to substances in their environment. Today many medical experts believe that 80 to 90 percent of all human cancers are caused directly or indirectly by factors in our environment.

1) Don't start smoking. If you already smoke, stop. It is also advisable to avoid smoke-filled rooms, excessive amounts of car fumes and industrial smoke. Consumption of alcohol also appears to increase the dangers of smoking.

2) Avoid excessive exposure to radiation. However, if your physician or dentist recommends that you have an x-ray in order to obtain information that is necessary for your future health, be sure to follow his advice.

For outdoor work requiring extended time in the sun, a long-sleeved shirt, coveralls and a broad-rimmed hat offer excellent protection from the sun's cancer-producing rays. Over-exposure can be prevented with proper attire.

3) Avoid excessive exposure to the sun, especially if you are fair and sunburn easily. Proper clothing and the use of protective creams which contain para-aminobenzoic acid will usually allow you to work and relax outdoors without excessive exposure.

4) Avoid contact with strong chemicals—household solvents, cleaning fluids, paint thinners, pesticides, fungicides, garden-lawn chemicals, asbestos, cutting oils, vinyl chloride, tars and soot. Investigate possible cancer-causing substances which are part of your work life. Use proper safety clothing and equipment where needed. If you observe industrial emissions and by-products, ask questions about possible dangers and safety.

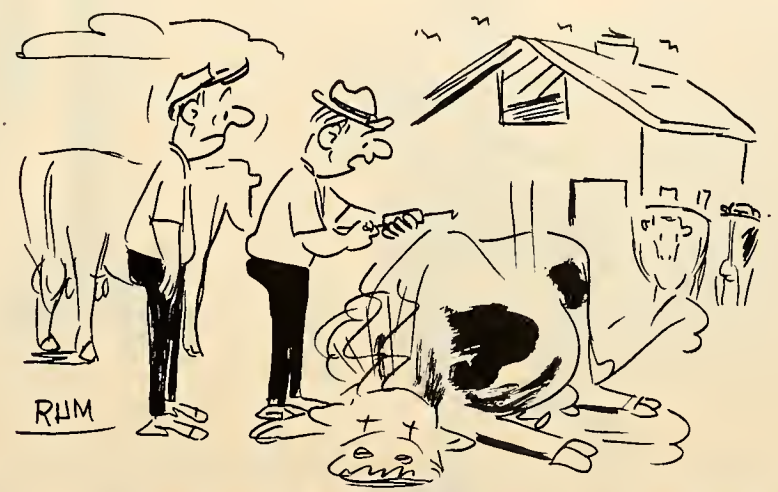
5) Take drugs only when needed. Your physician can advise you about the safety of drugs which he prescribes. Be sure to follow his directions.

6) Watch your diet. Throughout the course of history many statements have been made about the effect of diet on cancer. Today there are indications that diet does play a very important role in cancer prevention, but our knowledge is still very sketchy.

Several food additives have been accused of causing cancer. Most physicians feel that we should eat less fat. Excess fat should be trimmed off meat before cooking and fat that cooks out, drained carefully. Baking, broiling, roasting or stewing meat is also helpful in reducing fat consumption.

Vegetables, beans, whole grains, and fruits contain more fiber and help increase the speed with which food passes through the digestive process. These steps will also reduce caloric intake and help prevent obesity.

Dr. Ernst Wynder, president of the American Health Foundation, feels that following these recommendations will help. With the tremendous strides made in the diagnosis, treatment and now prevention of cancer, your life and that of your loved ones should be healthier and happier.



"Too bad! If she'd lived another week, I had seven more drugs I could have tried."

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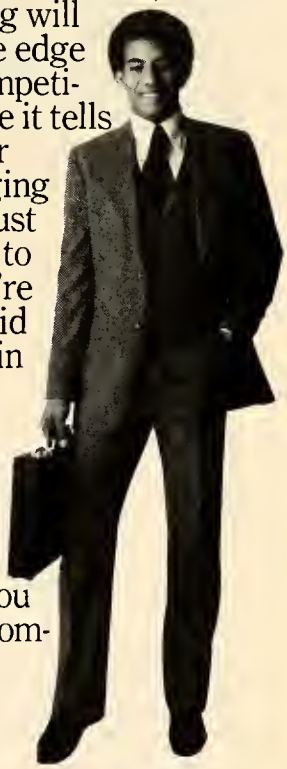

That's a brief look at the Army ROTC Four-Year Program. Year by year. Step by step. From beginning to end.

If you'd like a closer look still, send the attached postcard for more information. Or write: Army ROTC, P.O. Box 7000, Department E-T, Larchmont, New York 10538.

ARMY ROTC. LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO LEAD.

Clowning is Serious Business

Few people can look an irritated bull square in the eye and cause an arena crowd to laugh.

By Charlotte Smith

Tracey in his work clothes—looking funny is only a small part of his job.

Photos by Author

Tracey at work. The clown must attract the bull's attention while the bull rider makes a quick exit. Roscoe, Tracey's own "clone," watches the action.

THE chute gate opens and 2,000 pounds of mad bull lands in the arena. Perched on his back is less than 200 pounds of cowboy. All that stands ready to prevent the cowboy from being trampled or gored is a funny-looking character in outlandish garb, makeup and track shoes—the rodeo clown.

Tracey Smith, 17, is a senior at Nowata, Oklahoma, High School and secretary of his FFA chapter. He also happens to be a clown.

Tracey got started as an assistant when a clown hired to work a local rodeo needed help. The next night, the professional failed to show and Tracey was hired to go it alone. Since then he has been in the clowning business full scale, working in Oklahoma and Missouri.

Over six feet tall, Tracey towers over some of the steers and their riders at the junior shows. He has been known to reach out and lift a half-pint rider to safety at the end of a ride. And although he acts silly, his job as a rodeo clown is most serious and important in terms of safety for the contestants.

A bull rider rides with a rope looped around the belly of the bull. The free end is pulled tight and wrapped around the hand of the rider that grips a hold braided into the rope. The rider puts rosin on his glove to prevent his hold from slipping. But rosin may also cause his hand to hang up, binding the rider to the bull. When a hang-up occurs, the clown often risks his own life to free the rider. Quick action in moving close to the bull and releasing the rope is often the only way to prevent a rider's serious injury or death.

Qualifications for becoming a clown include being quick on your feet, a good basic knowledge of how livestock behave and the ability to think fast. The wrong decision can cost the lives of both clown and rider. Tracey, having lettered in football and track, is a comfort to the cowboys.

"Being funny or entertaining is part of it," says Tracey. "But any time I can save a guy from getting hurt—that is worth more than an hour's worth of being laughed at."

On one occasion, Tracey freed a rider only to have the bull swing his head to the side, striking Tracey in the ribs and knocking him several feet. Fortunately the rider was loosed and neither man was hurt seriously.

The clown also assists by distracting the bull as the rider dismounts, recovers from a throw or leaves the arena.

A bull rider is on his own to dismount the best way possible. A bull bucks and swings his horns violently, preventing a horse and rider from moving in for a pickup. Since a bull will deliberately try to stomp anything near his feet, the clown is invaluable in keeping the animal's attention while the rider makes for the nearest fence.

A bull can outrun a man in a straightaway race, but he can't turn as fast. For this reason the clown runs with one hand behind him, when the bull's breath or nose is felt on the trailing hand, the clown quickly cuts to the side to avoid impact.

If the clown can't cut as he should he is often "helped" from behind. Tracey once got his help when he led a bull to a fence because of a rider in the center of the arena. When Tracey made his cut, the fence was too close to hurdle. The bull caught him in the small of the

Moving in dangerously close, Tracey slaps a bull and dances to the side.

The bull turning its attention toward Tracey—exactly what the clown wants.

back and helped him over in short order.

A clown is also called on to entertain. Tracey relies on trick roping, jokes and a dummy named Rosco, affectionately called a "clone," to please a crowd. Rosco recently suffered a broken leg when a bull decided he didn't like the dummy's looks.

Besides working in the arena, Tracey is active in the Nowata FFA, operating a feeder steer project as his Supervised Occupational Experience Program. Rodeo grounds aren't Tracey's only stage. He acts in theater, plays the guitar and sings for school productions, church and civic functions. Having worked at a local feed store, the cowboy lifeguard plans to major in agribusiness at college and join the college rodeo team.

"Agriculture is one of the biggest things in this part of the country," says Tracey. "If a guy is going to use it to make a living he can get a lot of practical experience through FFA."

Funny or fast, a clown performs one of the most necessary services in a successful rodeo production. Slapping a mad Brahman bull on the nose looks like a suicidal way to get a laugh, but to the rider it is a ticket to a safe escape. Funny makeup, baggy pants and all, clowning is serious business.

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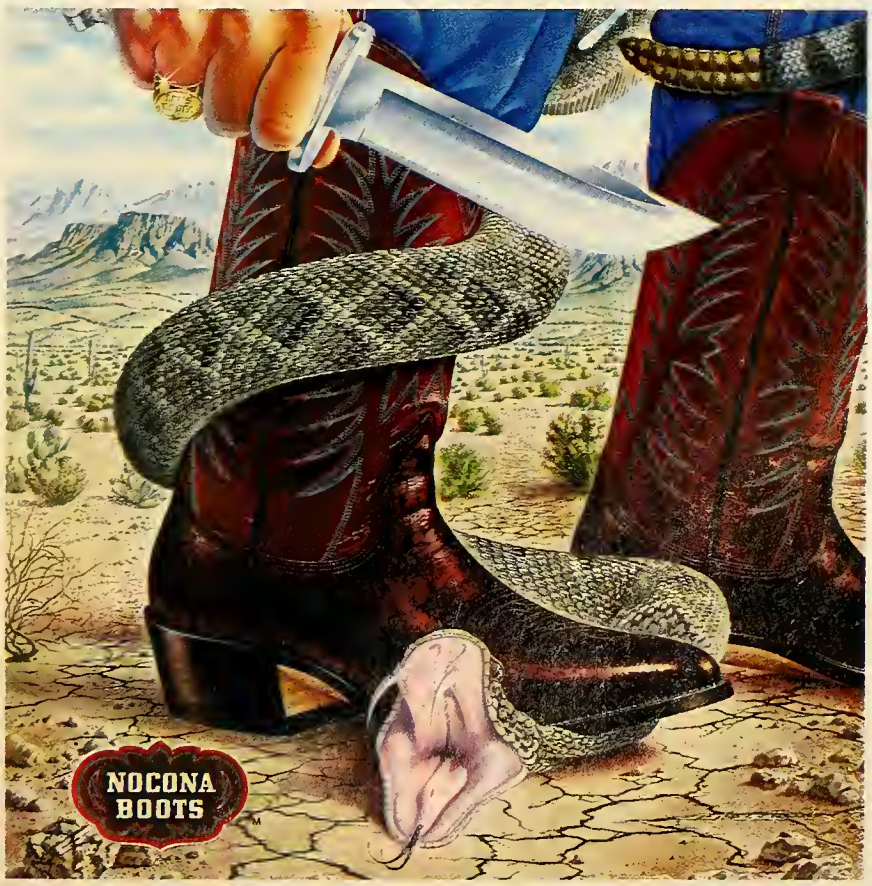

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U.S. team members at the 1980 Winter Olympics will wear Levi Strauss & Co. denim overalls and vest-jean outfits. The lady's shirt is cotton flannel, and the man's pant is Levi's Boot Jean.

From the Bailey Hat Company comes the Canadian shape hat called Honky Tonk. Made of poly straw in natural color, the U-Rollit features a 4½-inch trim, tall crown and a new feather trim.

The Westmoor Manufacturing Company, makers of Panhandle Slim western wear, has introduced these two new shirts. Both feature a desert-scene yoke and a polyester/cotton blend.

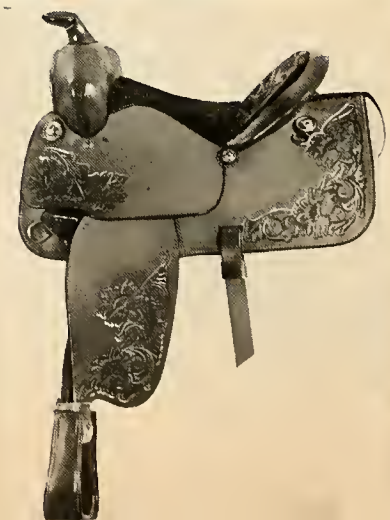
GOING WESTERN!

Crockett & Kelly's 1643 Sterling Silver mounted show bit comes in a 5⅛-inch mouth or 4¾ for Arabian horses. Write Crockett & Kelly, 944 Pearl St., Boulder, Colorado 80302.

The Culver City style from the Acme Boot Company's collection sports an antiqued brown-orange foot and shaft. Features include foot and shaft with a patchwork stitch and 38-J medium narrow toe.

The Lee Company offers this western three-piece dress suit, available in brown, tan and navy. The jacket and vest sport front and back yokes, the pant bottom features a slight boot flare.

The Mustang Saddle #3580 from Simco Leather Company is built on a Ralhide tree with 13-inch front, high gullet and quarter horse bars. Available seats include roughout or smoothout.



Miller Western Wear designers have added a new styled 3-inch collar to this polyester/cotton shirt. Features include front and back yokes and snap cuffs. Colors in blue or brown plaid.

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Photos by Author

FFA Advisor Noel Kawachi, left, discusses a point with Kevin Asato, right, state president, and Justin Godbehere, the 1978 State Star Farmer in Hawaii.

FFA Ways at Waialua

By Wilson Carnes

MANY people think of Hawaii as a vacationland. But for the FFA members of Waialua High School, it is home and where they carry on many FFA activities much like their counterparts back on the mainland.

One major difference, however, is the agriculture. There are few family farms and the area is surrounded by sugar cane and pineapple plantations owned by large corporations on one side, and the huge ocean waves good for surfing on the other. Their school is on the island of Oahu, the same island as Honolulu, Pearl Harbor and Waikiki Beach.

Ag students at Waialua High School prepare a plot for planting in the school garden. With the weather conditions in Hawaii, the growing season is endless.

The agriculture instructor and FFA advisor is Noel Kawachi, a graduate of Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo, California, but a Hawaiian native who has been at Waialua for 11 years. He described their major courses as ornamental horticulture and ag technology which is broken down into such subjects as Ag Tech I, Ag Tech II, Ornamental Horticulture I and II and PIP (pre-industrial preparation) horticulture. The latter subject includes the math, science and English related to horticulture.

Many of the ag program graduates work for the sugar company. "Some of them are truck drivers and we have quite a few who are mechanics," says Kawachi. "Last year three of our former members were made supervisors after about a year and a half because of their farming experience," he said.

The school has a large garden area with a portion reserved just for the FFA program which is sometimes used for a money-making project, like raising corn. There are also a lot of individual plots used as supervised projects.

This spring the ag program received a $6,300 federal grant to start an aquaculture program in the high school and they plan to raise frogs, bait fish, tropical fish, catfish and oysters, watercress and taro, a tuberous tropical plant used for food. One of the expense items in the budget is a visit by Mr. Kawachi to the Baldwin High School which already has an aquaculture program.

Enthusiasm for FFA is obvious in the chapter. The ag room is well supplied with FFA posters and other materials. During the past six years the FFA chapter has been a BOAC winner and received national chapter and safety awards. Two years ago the chapter had an American Farmer and this year Nelson McCormick and Robert Napalapalia have sent in applications.

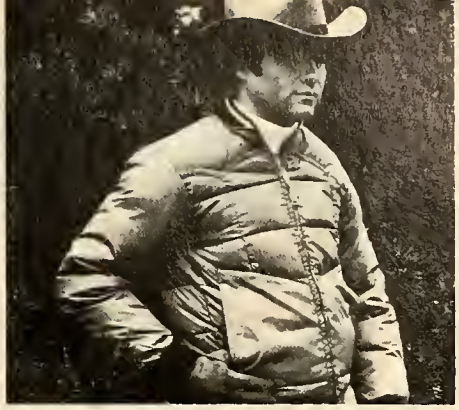
Chapter President Kevin Asato described some of the chapter activities as landscaping around the school, giving demonstrations as service projects to different groups such as woman's organizations in Waikiki and for elementary school students, picking up rubbish around the school and community and cooking chickens for the PTA as a fund-raiser.

The chapter also sends at least one member to the National FFA Convention each year. Last year it was Justin Godbehere, the State Star Farmer, who described his trip as "a big learning experience."

Several chapter members expressed an interest in going to ag college. With their interest in FFA, their thirst for knowledge and the guidance of their advisor, the Waialua Chapter should keep making FFA headlines in Hawaii.

The taffeta-lined down fill Pro Parka by Gerry provides warmth with its down pockets and elastic/snap wrists.

Picking the Right Parka



The Breeze jacket, by Comfy, features a water repellent nylon shell, goose down body and sleeves and wool cuffs.

HOT August temperatures probably don't call to mind the blustery, cold winds of winter. The cold season is right around the corner, though, so you may be making ready for it. Proper attire is important to ward off those winter chills.

Before you buy, consider the advantages of the article of clothing. You may find down-filled garments, such as parkas, to be of particular help in keeping your body warm. But as in any attire, these garments vary in quality.

As a consumer, you wish to buy the best possible parka for the money you wish to spend. You're probably most concerned with function and fashion—looking good while keeping warm. So what should you look for in a down parka?

Almost everyone wants a parka to provide a combination of the following: warmth under a variety of weather extremes, activity without restrictions, many years of satisfactory service and good looks.

Misconceptions exist about things that keep you warm. Prime goose down is superior to duck down. By the same token, only prime duck down is better than low grade goose down if both are available. A label that reads "prime down" or even "prime northern down" is no guarantee you're getting the best.

The Gerry Company, a maker of down garments, says down's function is to provide "loft" or dead-air space. Quality down is measured primarily by its "filling-power." Filling-power rated at 550 cubic inches per ounce or better is good quality.

To some extent, you can determine down quality by feeling with your fingers—even between layers of fabric. High quality has very few feather spines, quills, or other hard objects.

Both performance and attractiveness of your parka depend upon a proper fit. Without fit, materials and insulation really don't matter. A too-loose parka creates more space than your body should have to heat. A too-tight parka constricts the down, negating down's lofting power for warmth and freedom of movement. Select your parka as you would a pair of boots.

Since parkas will be subjected to tough wear conditions, check for strength of seam and weave, dyeing process and overall construction. Raw edges must be overcast or bound to prevent raveling. Strong thread and a considerable number of stitches per inch are needed.

Make your purchase with the long run in mind. Down does not go out of style and maintains its effectiveness for years. Remember that quality down, design and construction must cost more. A good down parka is a long-term investment only when it's backed by a reputable manufacturer.

And Something New for the Bootwearer . . .

Laramie Boot Company's Pattern T-531 features genuine Sand Antelope front and collar, Chocolate Kiddie 14-inch deep scallop top and six rows of shaded stitching. Laramie Boot Co., 8069 Almeda Ave., El Paso, Texas 79907.

The Antelope, Style 7800, by Hondo features the new higher 13-inch top and the round toe. The boot comes with a dark brown foot and cinnamon top, or gray, beige and honey with complimentary tops. Available now at western shops.

The sharkskin style 7900 from the Nocona Boot Company offers a medium-round toe and a "C" walking heel. The boot's top is veal, stitched with a five-row pattern of chocolate and white threads. This tough boot is full leather lined.

Here's a classic tall top in chocolate tanolamy from the Tony Lama Boot Company. A 17-inch top with scallop makes these all-leather boots easy to slip on over lean jeans. Tony Lama Co., 1137 Tony Lama St., El Paso, Texas 79985.

FFA IN ACTION

SAWING LOGS
The West Muskingum, Ohio, lumberjack team won third place in the first ever Ohio FFA lumberjack championship. Teams competed in log rolling, tree felling, crosscut sawing, splitting, chopping, firebuilding, backpack racing and pulpwood throwing. From left are Rusty Scott, Matt Myers, front center, Will Cooper, back center, and John Dosh.

A "PRIDE" CONFERENCE

The idea for the conference came out of a year-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of FFA. The 72 members of North Bend, Nebraska, Chapter organized a conference and invited all 139 chapters in the association to attend and participate.

Their purpose was to motivate FFA members to be enthusiastic about the success FFA has made in the past—a positive thinking session.

It was also to recognize accomplishments of past chapters and their members; and to help improve the already established chapters that need new and better ideas.

In order to stimulate participation, some chapters were asked to display their top program of activities and chapter books. The conference was held at the school and a meal for participants served in the cafeteria.

To carry out the PRIDE theme speakers gave presentations on each letter of that word. Mark Poeschl, state president, spoke about People. North Bend Chapter President Jeff Miller spoke about Responsibility. State Secretary Jill Beckman spoke about Involvement. Jay Schroeder, area chairman, spoke about Development. Then Kelly Grant, national FFA secretary, spoke about Enthusiasm.

An extra benefit of the conference was the slide tape presentation commemorating 50 years of FFA in Nebraska. The North Bend members collected the material and slides from chapters and association leaders and compiled them into a total presentation. This conference was the premier showing.

The chapter contributed the final show to the association for its use at the state convention and camp.

North Bend was named top chapter in a Nebraska program to recognize those chapters who celebrated the Golden Anniversary of FFA. *(Gary Kubicek, Advisor)*

LIVING AWARD

One of the awards that makes the Cleburne, Texas, Chapter unique is the Emmett Brown Memorial Agri-Christian Award. Cleburne, to their knowledge, is the only FFA chapter to honor a member with such an award.

The Agri-Christian Award is selected by secret ballot by members of the chapter. The qualification to be a recipient is to live a Christian witness. When the votes are counted, only the advisors, officers and recipient know the results. The recipient gives the invocation at the awards banquet and receives his award.

Mr. Emmett Brown was the superintendent of the Cleburne Independent School District and a citizen of Cleburne.

Dan Hanna, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hanna, has received the Agri-Christian Award for the past four years. Dan has been a member of the East Henderson Street Baptist Church for six years, where he is an active participant in youth activities. Dan has served as vice-president of FFA this past year. He served as Lake Whitney District secretary and chapter sentinel for the Cleburne FFA. Dan has recently received the Lone Star Farmer degree at area.

ADDING TO AG AWARENESS

In the hope of informing and educating the non farm friends of the Marysville, Ohio, FFA, the chapter decided to conduct a full scale ag awareness program. The goal of the chapter was to reach every individual in the Marysville area by one means or another and promote the future of farming.

To create interest in the area of agriculture, members of the Marysville FFA spoke to over 300 area second graders and sponsored a poster contest around the theme, "What do you think of when you see a farm."

To educate urban youth and parents on how agricultural products are produced, processed and marketed, 20 FFA members, 10 FFA Alumni members and 5 Young Farmers served as chaperones, tour guides and bus drivers for 285 fourth graders as they traveled by bus on an all-day field tour of area farms to see the six major areas of specialty in agriculture in our community. Fourth graders had the opportunity at one stop to view swine farrow, to see pigs nurse and to hold baby pigs. They also got to see a sheep operation with a ewe and lamb available to see and touch. Explanations of each animal and their products were made by the tour guides.

At the next stop students viewed a beef operation and saw what cattle eat and where hamburger comes from. A dairy farm was next on the tour where students petted calves, saw cows being milked, and learned the process involved.

The last stop was a cash grain farm

MONEY FOR THE PAST

Local implement dealers around Williston, North Dakota, each contributed a $100 to match up to $100 contributions by members of FFA toward the National FFA Hall of Achievement development fund. The Hall will be an exhibit of FFA Archives and American agricultural growth. Secretary David Beckley, left, and Peter Rice, right, president, accepted the gifts from Tony's Equipment, Smestad Implement, Frontier Equipment, Haugen's, Inc., and Williston Farm Equipment.

where students were shown the equipment used to produce crops, how crops are stored, how much the equipment costs and were able to see each type of crop produced in our area. FFA Alumni and Young Farmers members served as tour guides, delivered milk at lunch, drove buses and offered their farms to be a part of the tour.

Seventh graders were encouraged to learn more about agriculture through an FFA sponsored public speaking contest centered around the theme, "What Agriculture Means To Me." Participants were recognized at a seventh-grade assembly, and the top individual was recognized at the FFA banquet.

A speech entitled, "The Secret of Affluence" was presented to high school speech and English classes and to the Marysville Kiwanis group as part of our awareness program. Questions about agriculture were answered after each presentation to present facts of agriculture to individuals in area businesses and in the high school.

Displays were designed by FFA members showing that residents in the U.S. eat better for less than any other country in the world. These displays were put in area groceries, banks and shopping centers. Displays were also constructed in area businesses comparing initial investment in a farm compared to many businesses in town. Posters that chapter members made were distributed throughout the city.

Three ten-minute radio programs were taped by FFA members for the local radio station as a means of informing the community about agriculture.

In informing the community about agriculture it has already benefited the chapter through community support. *(James Laird, Reporter)*

(Continued on Page 61)

The chapter determined a number of audiences to reach in telling and promoting the story of American agriculture. Elementary school kids were taken onto real farms to give them a first hand look. Civic clubs were also target audiences for the chapter's campaign.

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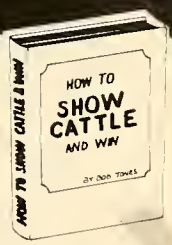

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Here's how to participate: Use order forms in the new Supply Service catalog or from the free sample kit which is available on request. Then get a committee to work on the project and decide whether or not your chapter should contact a business sponsor to pay for the calendars that the chapter can pass out promoting both the firm and the FFA. Or should the FFA buy their own calendars and say Thank You to the community. For individuals who want calendars or chapters who want to try just a small amount (without their chapter's name imprinted on them), use the forms below.

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FFA IN ACTION

(Continued from Page 59)

TRAVEL BY TRUCK

Lake Forest, Delaware's FFA is comprised of 125 members and 5 advisors. The vo-ag department consists of a greenhouse operation, two shops and three classrooms. Eighty acres are used by the FFA for their annual farming project.

The chapter was in dire need of a pickup for various FFA activities such as judging practice, field trips, hauling of citrus fruit, delivering of greenhouse plants and the farming project.

So the advisors contacted Webb's Ford of Milford and explained to owner Joe Webb various ways they could utilize a pickup.

After listening closely about the program Mr. Webb decided to donate to the Lake Forest FFA Chapter a new Ford pickup every year for their use. At the parent-member banquet he presented the officers with a set of keys to a 1979 pickup.

ON THE ROAD WITH FFA

Members of the vocational agriculture classes and Monroeville, Ohio, FFA held their annual project tour May 16. The purpose of the tour is to allow members to see the variety of projects which members are carrying and get ideas on how they might make changes or improvements in their own.

The first stop was the FFA land laboratory where demonstration plots for soybeans, fertilizer and herbicides will be planted. Eight variety plots are scheduled with some of the varieties to be Williams, Amsoy, Beeson and Elf. The chapter wheat field which also was an experiment with fly-on seeding looked very good.

Mortenson's Greenhouse in Milan was the next stop. Barb Wilhelm has had her work experience project at this business. Randy Mortenson was the tour guide; he is the grandson of the owner. He explained many facets of the greenhouse operation.

Gary and Scott Leber hosted the next stop to see their corn fields. They told the group they used Trojan Corn and 6-24-24 fertilizer.

The scenic stop was at Kurt Simon's home where we toured Kurt's outdoor recreation project. It consists of a nature trail, split rail fences, shelter house, swinging bridge and, of course, the log cabin complete with a wood-burning stove. Kurt has also been building a wall behind the house to stop erosion.

The tour stopped at the Stieber Implement Company where Mike Stieber works.

Next stop was the Chase Heyman farm where many types of crops are grown. These include cabbage, sugar beets, hay and no-till corn. Adam told the group the migrant workers help divide the plants and replant them.

At Bob Stieber's the group saw Bob's Simmental-Hereford mixed steers. He also has a number of young calves. The last stop was at Ed Wilhelm's house to see his pig project which includes five animals, a sow and four gilts. All but one are bred and due to farrow shortly. We also looked at his improvement projects which included pond improvement and various seeding improvements.

All students had to complete a written review of the tour and each gained a number of ideas on how many different types of agriculture endeavors are available. *(Jean Riley)*

BALL STARS GET BEAT FOR MONEY

The Waterville-Elysian FFA Chapter of Minnesota, recently held one of the biggest fund raisers for the chapter.

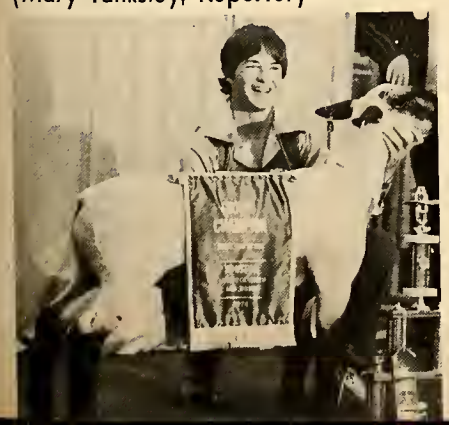
The idea, started in 1978, was to have the Minnesota Viking basketball team, featuring stars from the NFL team, to play basketball against the Waterville-Elysian faculty and other local stars. In the months that followed the chapter took charge of making posters, contacting former area basketball stars and contacting local news media and radio stations.

On March 17, 1979, the Minnesota Vikings arrived. The Vikings were faced with a very competitive team and a capacity crowd of over 1,000. The six Viking stars put on a display of basketball that sometimes was zany and sometimes was miraculous but mostly was just plain entertaining. The Viking team beat our local team, but that didn't seem to matter much, because all had an enjoyable evening.

The chapter cleared over $700 on this event to be used only in our chapter BOAC program. *(Mark C. Pittmann, Reporter)*

GOLDEN LAMB

Billy Leavitt, Alpine, Texas, FFA'er won grand champion lamb at Houston's Livestock Show. It sold for $30,000. (Mary Tanksley, Reporter)



ARTIST'S TOUCH

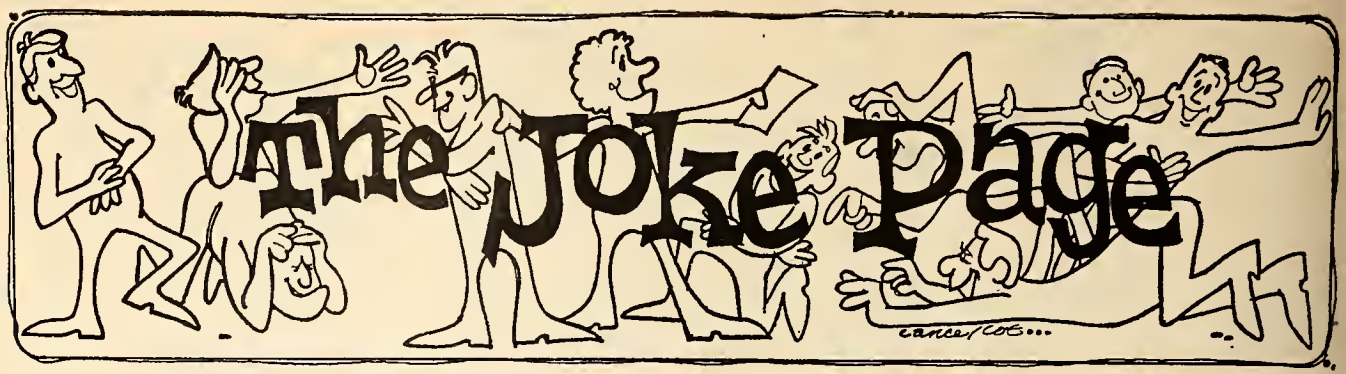
Chapter president and resident artist, Kenny Farmer, added an emblem to the Sparta, Tennessee, classroom. (Bobby Collier, Advisor)

RECORD BREAKING

When the Manchester, Iowa, FFA completed its judging season of July 1, 1978, to June 30, 1979, and took a tally, the chapter had received eight state Gold Emblem awards.

According to Mr. Gerald F. Barton,

(Continued on Page 62)



On her first date during a visit to Texas, a young woman was taken to a restaurant that was decorated in cowboy style. Excusing herself to freshen her makeup, she was back a minute later.

Blushing, she said to her escort, *"You'll have to help me. Am I a steer or a heifer?"*

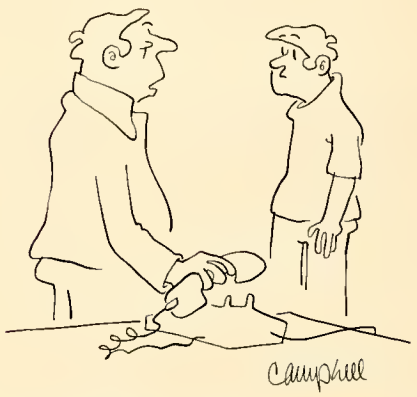
Tom Frantz
Waterloo, New York

Roger: *"There's a scientist in the East says he's able to make gasoline out of horse manure."*

Charlie: *"Does it give good mileage?"*

Roger: *"No, but it sure should put the stop to siphoning."*

Bob Ergen
South Haven, Minnesota



"The Hickmans want to borrow my post hole digger . . . be sure to wear your gloves."

The teacher was trying to impress upon her class the advantages of peace and disarmament. *"How many of you object to war?"* she asked.

Up went several hands. *"Jimmy, tell us why you object to war."*

"'cause wars make history."

Donna Godbey
Liberty, Kentucky

The teacher wrote on the blackboard, *"I ain't had no fun this summer at all."* Then she asked a youngster in her class, *"Susan, what would you suggest I do to correct that statement?"*

Susan studied the sentence for a moment and then replied, *"Get another boyfriend."*

Mary Saurborn
Mannington, West Virginia

A man was talking to his wife one day and said, *"Don't you think Junior got his intelligence from me?"*

His wife replied, *"He must have. I've still got mine."*

Cheryl Todd
Fayetteville, Tennessee

Teacher: *"There are two words in the English language you must 'never use. One of them is 'swell' and the other is 'lousy.'"*

Pupil: *"What are they?"*

Debbie Dunbar
Mansfield, Georgia

As the farmer's daughter came down the stairs dressed in ragged shirt and jeans, her mother said, *"It's one thing to be a farmer's daughter, but it's another to look like his son."*

Brenda MacRae
Havana, Kansas

An interior decorator is someone who tells you what kind of furniture to buy, what kind of draperies to hang and what colors to use in your house—sort of like a mother-in-law with a license.

Teri Vangundy
Riverside, California

Tom: *"Okay, if you're so smart, why does it take longer to get from second base to third base, than from first to second?"*

Sue: *"Because there is a 'shortstop' in between."*

Lonnie Weil
Vergennes, Illinois

A little brother and sister were always fighting. One day their mother said, *"Johnny, you should be nice to Hildegard. She was sent to us from heaven."*

"No," Johnny replied, *"she was pushed."*

Allen Scheer
Fairbury, Nebraska

Father in store: *"I would like to buy this shirt for my son's birthday."*

Clerk: *"Oh, is it a surprise?"*

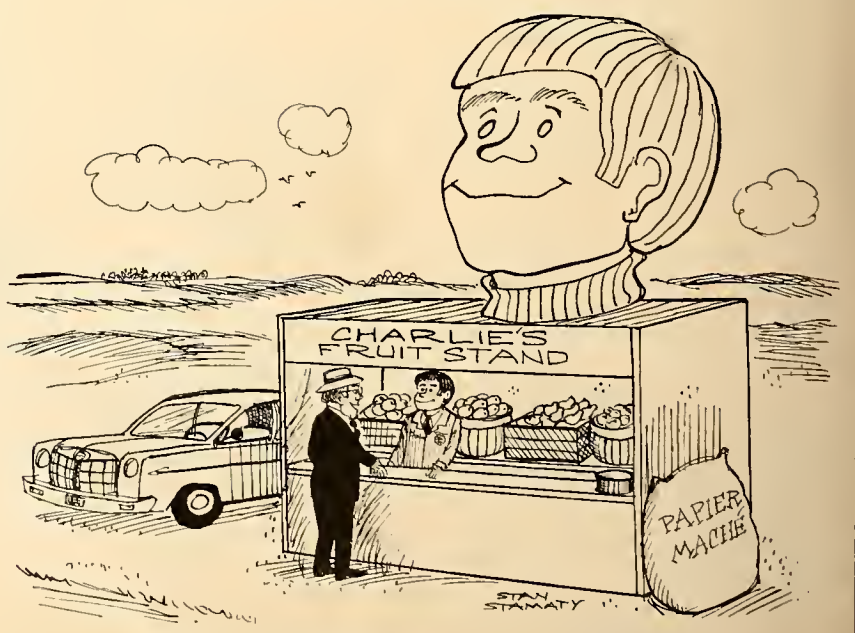
Father: *"It sure is, he is expecting a new car."*

Morgan McBride
Waco, Texas

Lawyer, reading will to assembled relatives: *"He turned it all into traveler's checks and took it with him."*

C. D. Sparkman
Henrietta, Texas

Charlie, the Greenhand



"I hear you've been to Mt. Rushmore, Charlie."

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Recipe: Clean and pat dry entire inside and outside of bird; season outside and cavity with salt, pepper and rosemary; place in large roasting pan; surround with chopped celery, parsnips, turnips, carrots and onion; add chicken stock to pan; cover and roast at 325°F for 2½ hours; before carving, prepare gravy from pan juices; serve with spiced apples.

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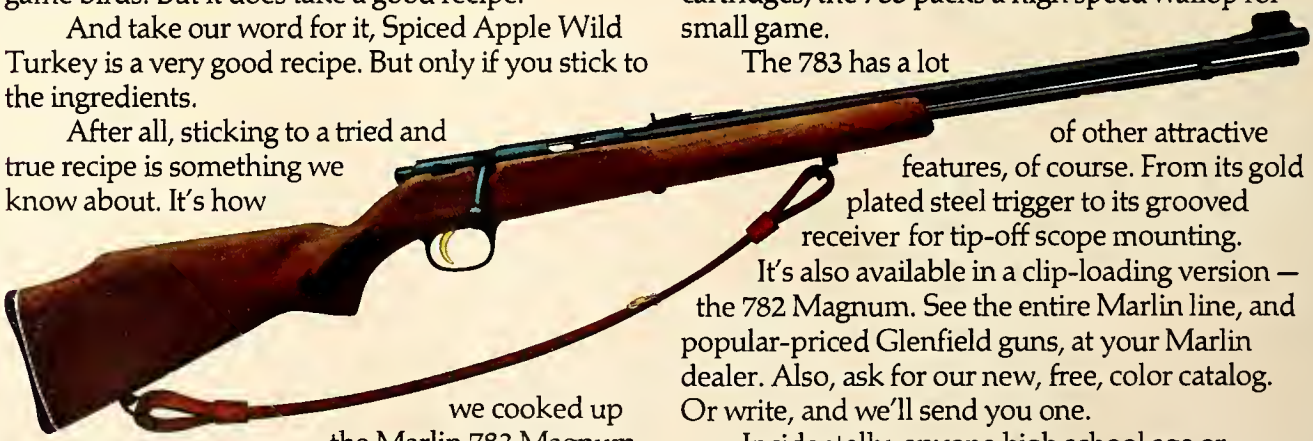

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